

## Lesson Learned Briefing

**No.:** LL12-0026

**Title:** Insufficient Work Planning Leads to Finger Cut on Band Saw

**Event:** Other Facility Event

**Event Date:** 02/27/2012

**Category:** ES&H - Shop Safety

**Summary:**

Lesson ID: TJNAF-369-01-20-2012

Originating Organization: Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (TJNAF)

Date: 2/27/2012

Lessons Learned: Pre-task planning plays a vital role in site safety.

**Discussion:**

On Friday, January 20, 2012, a Machine Shop employee in Building 90 at the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (TJNAF) was tasked with cutting stainless steel stock to approximately 1 in. length pieces. He began cutting 1/8 x 3/4 in. flat stainless steel stock on the band saw, using a 6 in. nylon push block. The size of these pieces required additional support in close proximity to the saw blade (see attached photographs).

The employee used a push block with his left hand and the fingers of his right hand to hold the material as it was being pushed into the saw blade. When cutting the last piece, the saw grabbed the material and the employee's finger was drawn into the saw blade, slicing through the flesh of his right index finger. A fellow employee transported the injured employee to a local off-site clinic. The injured employee received four sutures (two in his nail bed and two in the pad of his finger). The employee was able to return to work on Monday, January 23, 2012.

The causes of this incident were:

1. Poor selection of equipment to accomplish the work. Two Marvel saws were available to use and would have eliminated the employee's exposure to the saw blade (point of operation).
2. Poor set up of the band saw. The blade guide/guard should have been lowered to nearly the thickness of the stock being cut.
3. Poor selection of push stick/block. The use of two blocks or a longer and thinner one would have increased the distance from the blade (point of operation).
4. No formal procedure or Operating Safety Procedure (OSP) for machine use was in place.
5. Too much reliance on prior experience and skill of the trade.

Actions to prevent recurrence:

1. Hold stand down meeting with the other machinists to discuss this event and how to avoid similar incidents.
2. Prepare the OSP for the band saw(s).
3. Have all the saw operators read and sign the OSP for the band saw(s).

ISM Code(s): Analyze Hazards, Define Work

**Uploaded documents/attachments:**

[TJNAF^Finger^Cut^\(EEL^Machine^Shop\).pdf](#)

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