



SAFETY ALERT

PREVENTING CUTS FROM BROKEN GLASS

TYPE OF INCIDENT / INJURY	Laceration to Forearm
WHAT HAPPENED?	<p>A row of Crittall type window frames were required to be removed from a building as part of the soft strip.</p> <p>The removal process involved breaking out the glass safely by hand, cutting the fixing bolts of the window frame with a rip saw and then carefully man handling the frame (about 25kg) out of its aperture.</p> <p>Whilst using a couple of crow bars on each side to help prise the frame out, it suddenly without warning dislodged itself and came into contact with the IP's right forearm unfortunately some shards of glass were still in the frame and cut 4 of his tendons connected to his right hand.</p> <p>He required specialist surgery the following day and will require considerable physiotherapy as part of his recovery.</p>
	<p>Image shows residue glass</p>  <p>Image shows cut to right forearm, severing tendons</p> 
IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Review soft strip operations requiring glass removal.- Has the task been formally approved?- Has the correct PPE been issued?- Has all visible glass been removed?
DISCUSSION / LEARNING POINTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Could the window frames have been removed in a different way?- If change is required to the agreed safe system of work, what should you do?- What should you do if you think the job is unsafe?- Do you feel confident to speak up if you have a safety concern?- Make sure safety awareness is made personal every day.- Everybody is empowered and accountable to stop any unsafe act or condition while at work.