

Type of Incident

Hand Injury

Summary of Incident

A crew was working in a bearing compartment, removing retaining bolts securing the housing cover. Difficulty was experienced during this process and a supervisor asked an associate, who was carrying out a different task at that time, to assist them. The associate was instructed to hold a spanner in place while the other workers in the team loosened the bolts from the underside of the housing cover. As the last retaining bolt was removed, the housing cover dropped injuring the associate's finger.

Critical Factors

- Restricted working space
- Injured associate was not expecting the housing cover to drop
- Poor communication between the parties involved in the task
- No supports in place to control the housing cover's movement when released from its retaining bolt

Corrective Actions

- Risk Assessment and Safe Work Procedure to be reviewed and amended as required
- Pre-task briefing to all persons involved in this type of work to be carried out
- Identify and implement measures to improve communications between associates involved in similar tasks
- Install supports to prevent the housing cover from dropping after being released from its retaining bolts

Photo(s)

