

Hydro Tasmania

SAFETY BRIEF

Laceration to hand whilst stripping electrical cable

Brief Number (YYMMDD)	251002	Date Issued	2 October 2025
SAP Number (if applicable)	80763	Approved By	Head of WHS
Action Required?	Yes		

Summary

An employee sustained a laceration to the palm of their hand which required medical treatment, while stripping electrical cable with a cable knife. An investigation is currently in progress, and details will be provided once available.

This incident follows a series of hand injuries in Aug'25, when six hand-related injuries were reported across the business. So far in 2025 there have been 22 hand injuries which requires a continued focus.

Key Message

The key message for all of us – whether employees, leaders, or contractors, is to always consider:

- Where will your or your work peers' hands be during the task – will they be in the line of fire?
- Invite the willingness to be challenge on at work risk behaviours observed so people feel safe to speak up
- Are there pinch points, sharp edges, or moving parts?
- Be aware of your surroundings and what others are doing.
- Apply the hierarchy of controls – assess whether a tool can be used rather than your hands?
- Always wear the proper hand protection for the task and know the limitations of your gloves.

Action

Leaders:

- Use this Safety Brief in your Toolbox discussions and Team meetings / pre-start
- Check work that teams are involved in and support & encourage good practice
- Conduct targeted safety interactions about hand safety over the coming weeks (hint: when logging your SI's, use the words "hand safety" in the title field so we can review your insights)
- Ensure the availability and correct specification of PPE for hand tasks

Workers:

- Conduct targeted safety interactions about hand safety over the coming weeks (hint: when logging your SI's, use the words "hand safety" in the title field so we can review your insights)
- Hazard reporting – report any conditions or aspects that might contribute to hand injuries (e.g. inadequate machine guarding, sharp objects, inadequate work methods / tools)
- Ensure Take 5's consider specific hand safety risks such as cut, crush, bruise, burn, pinch etc.