



HSE ALERT

Safety Glasses Awareness

INCIDENT DESCRIPTION:

Recently, an employee suffered an eye injury that required medical attention after being struck in the face by a branch, while working in dense brush.

The worker was wearing safety glasses at the beginning of the work shift, but during the course of work the glasses became dislodged, and could not be located.

The worker continued with her daily activities. Later in the day, a branch struck the worker in the eye area, causing what was considered to be a minor injury.

Two days later, the area became infected, requiring a visit to the doctor.

CONTRIBUTING FACTOR(S):

- Worker was working in dense brush.
- Safety glasses were able to be dislodged during the course of work.
- Glasses became lost in the dense brush, making them difficult to locate.
- The worker chose to continue work, rather than returning to obtain replacement glasses.



Whenever we perform work in the field, it is essential that all hazards have been identified. In addition, all corrective measures, including PPE, must be adhered to. Missing or lost PPE requires immediate stoppage of work until the proper attire is obtained.

KEY LEARNING(S): WE CARE ABOUT OUR EMPLOYEES AND WE DON'T WANT THEM HURT!

- When working in conditions in which your safety glasses may inadvertently fall off or become dislodged and replacement is not readily available, consider the use of restraining straps, tethers or other means of securing your glasses.
- All staff is informed and empowered to stop their work, or that of co-workers, if safety devices or PPE is missing, lost or defective.
- Immediate reporting of all incidents, even those that may appear "minor" at the time, will ensure that the correct first aid or medical attention is provided in a timely manner.

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Signature

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