



Pipe Trades Network Bulletin

SAFETY BULLETIN #12 TIGHTENING

Statistics have shown that certain types of lost-time-injuries are more prevalent to Plumbers. This bulletin has been prepared to create awareness and suggest solutions to reduce these causes of lost-time-injuries.

Case Histories

Plumber was tightening pipe with a wrench when wrench slipped causing him to lose his balance and he fell with stepladder, cutting & fracturing his right hand.

Plumber was tightening pipe when the wrench slipped and he moved his head back, striking and cutting his head against a pipe.

Plumber was tightening fitting when he fell 6' from ladder, fracturing his left ankle.

Plumber was tightening spring on lift gate when spring slipped and struck worker in the face, cutting it.

Plumber was tightening pipe when pipe wrench slipped and he fell off scissor lift, injuring his back.

Plumber was tightening screw when screwdriver slipped and punctured his left hand.

Activity

Tightening pipes, screws, fittings, and other material while working from ladders or scissor lifts continues to be a factor in lost-time injuries for *Plumbers*.

Prevention

- Use fall-arrest or travel restraint systems where required.
- Maintain ladders in safe condition and use with precautions.
- Use proper stance or position before starting procedure.
- Use proper power or hand tool for the job.

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