



Network Bulletin

Refrigeration/Air Conditioning

Safety Bulletins:

- #1 LIFTING
- #2 CLIMBING & DESCENDING
- #3 REPAIRING/SERVICING
- #4 INSTALLING
- #5 WALKING
- #6 CARRYING
- #7 REMOVING
- #8 LOADING/UNLOADING
- #9 MOVING
- #10 INSPECTING
- #11 CUTTING
- #12 REACHING
- #13 HANDLING
- #14 TIGHTENING
- #15 PULLING

SAFETY BULLETIN #11 CUTTING

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

Case Histories

HVAC/R mechanic was cutting a piece of pipe with sawzall when it jammed and cut his right thumb.

HVAC/R mechanic was cutting sheet metal on machine when the metal flew up and struck his face, cutting it.

HVAC/R mechanic was cutting plastic tubing when tubing sprang back and struck his eye, scratching the cornea.

HVAC/R mechanic was cutting a piece of duct with a snip when his hand slipped on wet metal, cutting his hand.

HVAC/R mechanic was cutting water hose line for installation of air conditioning unit when the knife struck his right leg, cutting it.

HVAC/R mechanic was cutting a piece of metal when a metal sliver entered his right eye.

Activity

Cutting ductwork, metals, and pipes, plastic tubing or other HVAC material with power/hand tools continues to be a factor in lost-time injuries for **HVAC/R Work**.

Prevention

- **Ensure work is secured to keep it from shifting during cutting.**
- **Wear proper personal protective equipment at all times (eyewear, gloves).**
- **Use proper cutting stance and grip while cutting.**
- **Use proper power or hand tool for the job.**

Please photocopy this bulletin and distribute as widely as possible



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