

Non-Powered Hand Tool Accidents Account for 15 Percent of All Aggregates Injuries

In 2013, 15 percent of all injuries in stone, sand and gravel facilities were associated with use of hand tools (non-powered).

- A cable holding a chain come-along failed. The chain hit a miner in the head, causing a laceration.
- A miner was swinging a sledge hammer, missed the focal point, and lost control of the hammer, resulting in a muscle strain.
- A miner was using a five foot long crow bar to line up a hold on a crane boom and strained a muscle.



Could these accidents occur at your facility?

Best Practices

Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment when using hand tools.

Inspect hand tools prior to using them.

Always wear appropriate gloves when conducting repair and maintenance jobs. Consider mechanic-type gloves allowing for increased dexterity.

Never strike metal on metal. Use dead blow hammers or tools designed to be struck with metal.



* This product was developed as part of the MSHA Alliance Program. It does not necessarily reflect the official views of MSHA. Use of the Alliance Program logo is reserved for MSHA and its active Alliance partners. The MSHA Alliance Program is to promote miner safety and health through voluntary partnerships, which provide training and education, outreach, technical assistance, and a national dialog on mine safety and health. For more information, contact MSHA at (202) 693-9414 or <http://www.msha.gov/alliances/alliances.htm>.