

# IUEC INCIDENT SUMMARY

MARCH 18, 2024 | INJURY



## Description of Incident

A mechanic and apprentice were assembling a three-piece hydraulic piston for a roped hydraulic elevator.

A piston clamp was holding the lower sections in place while the team hoisted the third section to be installed with a capstan hoist.

After hoisting the last section into place, the rope from the hoist was tied off while the team made the final connection.

After all sections were connected the apprentice started to loosen the piston clamp and the rope that was supposed to suspend the piston had gone slack and the piston slid through the clamp. The apprentice's hand was crushed between the hoisting bracket and the piston clamp.

**Current Status:** The apprentice had surgery on his hand and wrist to repair bone and tendon damage. He will be out of work during recovery for several months.

## Recommendations & Lessons Learned

Always follow the company safety policy.

Always perform a JHA/JSA as per company policy.

### Possible Root Causes

The rigging was not inspected for proper fit before disassembling the piston clamp.

#### **FIELD EMPLOYEE'S SAFETY HANDBOOK**

Section 12 Material Handling

12.3 Hoisting and Rigging

(ae) When starting a lift, gradually take slack out of slings and make sure that no one's hands are in a position to be caught between the load and sling hook.

(af) Never attempt to make a lift or move equipment when anyone is in a position to be injured should the load shift or fall.



**Control Type:** Electric

**Machine Type:** Hydraulic

**Speed:** 100 ft/min

**Capacity:** 2,500 lbs.

**Rise:** 4 Floors

**Hoistway Configuration:** Duplex

**JHS/JSA Completed:** Yes



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IUEC SAFETY ALERTS

IUEC Safety Stand Down Day | April 28, 2024

# IUEC INCIDENT SUMMARY

MARCH 22, 2024 | INJURY



**Warning – Contains Graphic Image**

## Description of Incident

A mechanic was cleaning steel wire hoist ropes in the machine room while wearing leather gloves, using a handheld brush.

The mechanic used his computer to initiate movement of the elevator while he held the brush against the ropes to remove lint.

As the elevator ran down his hand got pulled into the drive sheave crushing the tip of his finger.

While the sheave rotated with his finger caught under the rope, his shirt also got caught in between the ropes and the sheave pulled him off the ground.

When his finger released from the other side of the sheave, he was able to tear his shirt free by kicking against the bedplate.

**Current Status:** The mechanic had the damaged portion of his finger removed and is out of work waiting for follow-up medical appointments. It is estimated he will be out of work for 4-6 weeks.

## Recommendations & Lessons Learned

Always follow the company safety policy.

Always perform a JHA/JSA as per company policy.

Many existing elevators are not properly guarded as required by national standards.

### Possible Root Causes

Not maintaining control of the elevator.

Working too close to rotating equipment.

Using handheld tools/rags on rotating equipment.

### **Field Employees' Safety Handbook**

29 CFR 1910 OSHA – Occupational Safety and Health Standards  
1910.212(a)(1) Types of guarding. One or more methods of machine guarding shall be provided to protect the operator and other employees in the machine area from hazards such as those created by point of operation, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, flying chips and sparks. Examples of guarding methods are - barrier guards, two-hand tripping devices, electronic safety devices, etc.

1910.212(a)(3)(ii) The point of operation of machines whose operation exposes an employee to injury, shall be guarded. The guarding device shall be in conformity with any appropriate standards therefor, or, in the absence of applicable specific standards, shall be so designed and constructed as to prevent the operator from having any part of his body in the danger zone during the operating cycle.



**Control Type:** Electric  
**Machine Type:** Traction  
**Speed:** 200 ft/min  
**Capacity:** 2,500 lbs  
**Rise:** 5 Floors  
**Hoistway Configuration:** Duplex  
**JHS/JSA Completed:** Yes



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IUEC SAFETY ALERTS

*IUEC Safety Stand Down Day | April 28, 2024*

# IUEC INCIDENT SUMMARY

APRIL 8, 2024 | INJURY



## Description of Incident

A mechanic was performing maintenance on a hydraulic elevator with a dry pump unit.

While checking belt tension, the pump motor started and his fingers on his left hand were pulled between the belts and pulley. The tip of his middle finger was severed, and he suffered lacerations to his index and ring fingers.

**Current Status:** The mechanic lost the fingertip of his middle finger and received stitches. He will be on light duty for 6 weeks.

## Recommendations & Lessons Learned

Always follow the company safety policy.

Always perform a JHA/JSA as per company policy.

### Possible Root Causes

Lockout and Tagout procedures were not performed.

#### **Field Employee's Safety Handbook**

Section 7 Lockout and Tagout

#### 7.1 Procedures

(b) Where the accidental starting of the equipment would create a hazard – deactivate mainline disconnect switch to shut off the power. **CAUTION:** Do not stand directly in front of the mainline disconnect when operating (stand off to the side of the disconnect). Each employee shall apply to the disconnect switch a personal lock and a "Do Not Start" tag with the employee's name (Section 5.3).



**Control Type:** Electric

**Machine Type:** Hydraulic

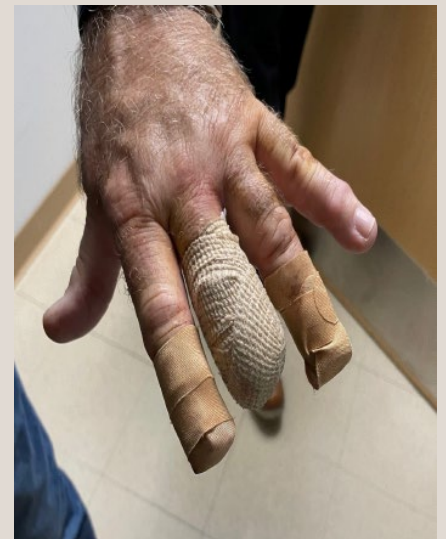
**Speed:** 150 ft/min

**Capacity:** 2,500 lbs.

**Rise:** 3 Floors

**Hoistway Configuration:** Duplex

**JHS/JSA Completed:** No



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