



INCIDENT ALERT

General Information

Date of Incident	26 th May 2016
Type of Incident	Laceration requiring Medical treatment

About the Person

Occupation of Person	HPWJ operator
Experience of Person	2 years
HPWJ Training Level	In-house Training Course
Other Training	
No. of Hours Completed	Not Known but very competent

About the Incident

Time of incident	7.10pm
Result of Injury/Damage	Hospital out patients
Lost Days	None
Description of Incident	HPWJ laceration to hand
What Equipment Category	Hired in Class B (low level)
Equipment Used	HPWJ Gun
What Was Person Doing	The HPWJ operator was using a HPWJ gun to clean calcium build up inside of large concrete water tanks. Due to using 345 Bar (5000psi) and being a tall person, He was holding the gun lance just in front of the fixed handle for comfort and control.
What happened unexpectedly	The lance split under the pressure and High pressure water emitted from the barrel injecting water into the operator's hand. Upon inspection it was determined that the lance had a section that showed a 30mm split where the operator was holding the lance at that point causing the injury.

Corrective Action

What Immediate Action	Task stopped, Person taken for medical attention, the hirer of the HPWJ Unit was notified and the unit and accessories were taken out of service, investigation process started. Machine and worksite was audited by an Independent Auditor to ensure all complied for the type of work that gets carried out regularly and it was found that both the hirer and site were not fully compliant for safe operation. The hire company identified in the investigation the lance was an old stock seam welded barrel and not rated to the machine pressure.
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Preventative Action

Elimination	All existing barrels were examined and any seam welded barrels removed from service. Audit results caused a re-assessment of QA and prestart checks for both the hirer and worksite.
Substitution	
Isolation or barriers	
Engineering	
Administration	Pre-start checks at the start of every shift
PPE	All correct PPE now in place

LEARNINGS

Prior preparation prevents poor performance and ensures safe operation of class B equipment. The Independent Auditor audit resulted in some very important learning in regards to the AS/NZ 4233.1 & 2 standard requirements which were not common knowledge for the hirer and worksite. Injured worker was back at work the next day and all involved were a lot more knowledgeable around Class B operating requirements. It also prompted the customer to do a full audit on all their current installations.



Figure 1: 30mm Split in the Lance Tube.