



INCIDENT ALERT



General Information

Date of Incident	31 st January 2019
Type of Incident	Lost Time Injury

About the Person

Occupation of Person	Industrial Services Operator
Experience of Person	Operator 1: 3.25 Years Operator 2: 1.5 Years
HPWJ Training Level	Operator 1: Completed MSMSS0004 Sep 2017 Operator 2: Completed MSMSS0003 Jun 2018
Other Training	Internal Combo Unit competency training
No. of Hours Completed (On shift that day)	Operator 1: 4.75 Hours Operator 2: 5.75 Hours

About the Incident

Time of incident	10:45am
Result of Injury/Damage	Major laceration to the face/chin area and displaced teeth on the bottom row
Lost Days	6
Description of Incident	Two operators attended a job to clean a separator. Operator 1 was holding an open ended 12mm jetting hose on a Combination Drain Cleaning unit to volume wash a separator pit. Operator 2 was operating the water pump on and off. When the water pump was engaged Operator 1 lost control of the hose which then recoiled back hitting his head/face.
What Equipment Category	Combination Drain Cleaning Unit
Equipment Used	Open ended 12mm jetting hose
What Was Person Doing	Open hosing a separator pit
What happened unexpectedly	The manual bypass was not turned to prevent full pressure flow being achieved, thus reaction force through the open ended 12mm hose caused Operator 1 to lose control of the hose which in turn struck him in the face before Operator 2 could engage the emergency stop button.

Corrective Action

What Immediate Action	Unit was shut down operator transferred to hospital for treatment and surgery. Incident investigation of the incident began.
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Preventative Action

Elimination	All open hosing from Class B pumps ceased immediately
Substitution	
Isolation or barriers	
Engineering	Engineering Controls to be reviewed to lock out the bypass valve, this will ensure that personnel using this valve understand what they are doing when unlocking for high pressure works. Controls to be reviewed for the water pressure pumps fitted to ensure that when control devices (Hold to Activate) are installed on the hose end that there is a pressure unload function. In accordance with AS/NZS 4233.1-2013.

Administration	Review the training needs of each operator compared to the vehicles which are used and ensure that operators are competent on the vehicles they are using on a task.
PPE	Ensure that personnel completing the work have and wear the appropriate PPE for the task with the class of pump being used in accordance with AS/NZS 4233.1-2013.

LEARNINGS

The use of open ended pressure hoses to volume wash has resulted in many incidents over the years and has caused numerous facial injuries.

AS/NZS 4233 has sections that need to be complied with. See below

5.3 SYSTEM CONTROL

All systems shall be 'fail to safe state' and incorporate at least two control mechanisms. In manually operated, hand or foot controlled operations, one primary 'shut-off' shall be a 'hold-to-activate' device that will stop the flow of high pressure water, the other being an emergency stop that will stop the motive power.

6.6.2.2 Nozzle operator

The prime function of the nozzle operator is controlling the flow of pressurized water using a hold to activate device when using high pressure water to remove product.

Companies should ensure that all operators are competent on the equipment they are operating.