

## Ratchet Strap Released Under Pressure - Injures Thumb

### Incident



Two (2) tyre service persons were performing a change on a backhoe tyre (18.4-26) using a floor mounted tyre change machine. Whilst undertaking this task they had trouble seating the beads of the tyre to the rim. A bead blaster was used several times, to assist with the task, however this still proved unsuccessful. It was decided that a tie-down ratchet strap be used to help seat the beads. The ratchet strap was placed on the tyre and inflated and the beads seated.

Whilst releasing the tension on the ratchet strap, the ratchet mechanism struck the tyre service person causing a laceration and fracture. The stored energy from the tyre being inflated caused the lever of the ratchet strap to rapidly release.

### Recommendations

1. The use of ratchet straps, rope, chain etc. is a **non-approved** method of seating the bead of a tyre onto a rim & these items are not to be used for this purpose.
2. The use of a tube to seat the bead of the tyre onto a rim is the preferred method.
3. Use additional bead lube to assist with the seating of beads (ensure air is disconnected when applying extra bead lube and fingers are kept clear).
4. Use of the floor mounted tyre change machine can assist with the seating process.

### Actions for all Klinge Sites:

1. Review this Safety Alert with all personnel, with sign-off. Email completed sign-off form to [safety@klinge.com.au](mailto:safety@klinge.com.au)
2. Post this Safety Alert on your Safety Notice Board until end March 2013.
3. If you have any concerns related to the subject matter contained within this Safety Alert please contact [safety@klinge.com.au](mailto:safety@klinge.com.au)

### **Eliminate All Unsafe Acts & Conditions.**

Tanya Hoyle

OHS & Compliance Advisor

Safety Alert 91 130306 Injured Finger from Ratchet Strap

*'Klinge Safe Tyres Produce More & Last Longer'*

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