

PLAYING IT

# SAFE

Be safe and healthy on the job with these helpful tips provided by  
**Crendon Insurance Brokers Ltd**

## Prevent Amputation Injuries

*Don't take this risk lightly*

Amputations are some of the most serious and debilitating workplace injuries. Working in the wholesale and retail industry puts you at risk for amputation injuries, namely due to the equipment you operate every day. Understanding the hazards and taking necessary precautions is the best way to prevent such injuries.

### Hazards in the Workplace

The following are examples of amputation hazards you may encounter:

- Forklifts - limbs could get pinned between the machine and a fixed point or could get run over by a moving forklift.
- Electrical equipment in a bakery or meat department (saw, slicer, grinder, etc.) can cause injury due to rotating, cutting, flying and other moving parts.
- Compactors, balers and waste disposal units can trap or crush a limb.
- Powered and non-powered hand tools, including saws and other slicing or cutting tools
- Conveyor belts – workers can get caught in moving parts, especially you have long hair or are wearing loose clothing

### Preventing Serious Injury

Fortunately, you can avoid most workplace accidents. Many amputation injuries are caused by workers not paying attention to the task at hand or ignoring safety procedures and safeguards. To prevent injury, follow these precautions:

- Make sure you are properly trained before using any tools or equipment.
- Use equipment only for the intended purpose.
- Check that tools, machinery and equipment are in good working order before use.
- Stay alert for co-workers and customers when operating machinery, particularly moving equipment such as forklifts or conveyor belts.
- Be aware of your surroundings when working or even walking near heavy equipment or dangerous tools, even if you are not the operator.
- Observe all safety precautions.
- Never remove machine guards or other safety devices – they are designed to protect you.
- Pay attention to what you are doing; many injuries are caused by inattention or carelessness.
- Do not wear loose clothing or dangling jewellery, and tie long hair back.



### It Could Happen to You

It's normal for us to think that a serious injury will always happen to someone else, never to us. However, when working around dangerous tools and equipment, the possibility for injury is always there. Follow all safety precautions to ensure that you and your co-workers stay safe.

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