

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
"Could it happen here?"

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Angle Grinder

A welder was prepping a V groove root of a 23" pipe using an angle grinder with a feathering technique. The zip blade's flex rating allowed for light feathering instead of cutting if needed.



As the welder approached the bottom of the pipe, the grinder caught in the root, kicked back, and flew out of the welder's hand. The grinder bounced back with tremendous force, hitting the welder and causing a deep laceration and severing a tendon near the wrist, close to the radial artery.

Surgery was required on the tendon.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Roll pipe to access bottom of root.
- Never grind on the backside of the wheel.
- Wear a Kevlar sleeve to protect from potential cuts.
- Keep guards in place, if you have to move it to perform an unsafe action, ask for assistance.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Always take the extra steps required to complete a job safely.

