

# HAZARD



# ALERT

## ARENA WORKER SUFFERS INJURY WHILE CHANGING BLADE ON ICE RESURFACER

**A** municipal employee sustained a serious cut to his hand while replacing the blade of a Zamboni® ice resurfacer. He was removing the old ice blade and had omitted to install the magnetic safeguard to sheath it, when his Allen wrench slipped. The employee's hand came into contact with the blade's razor-sharp edge,

which sliced through the leather glove he was wearing, and cut him deeply.



The WHSCC investigating officer determined the root causes of the accident to be the **absence of safeguard** on the ice resurfacer's cutting edge, the **lack of training of the employee** and the **absence of proper work procedures**.

### Recommended Preventive Actions

- When changing the blade on a Zamboni® ice resurfacer, always install a guard over the blade. A manufactured guard exists specifically for this purpose.
- If a guard needs to be installed to enable the cleaning, maintenance, adjustments or repair of the machine, a safe work procedure for the task shall be developed and posted where employees can access it.
- Every employer shall provide such information, instruction, training and supervision as are necessary to ensure an employee's health and safety. [Section 9(2)(c) *OHS Act*]
- Where an employee is exposed to a hazard that may injure the skin, the employee shall use adequate protective gloves. [Section 42(a) *Reg. 91-191*] In this case, the wearing of gloves prevented a severe or even disabling injury.

**In New Brunswick workplaces, all machines must comply with the Regulation 91-191, Sections 242 and 243 – Safeguards.**

1 800 442-9776



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**WHSCC**  
*All Accidents are Preventable*