

# [Company fined after machine operator sustained serious injuries](#)

A supplier of machined components has been fined after an employee sustained a severed finger, lacerations and tendon damage whilst operating a stud assembly machine at a factory in Brownhills, West Midlands.

Dudley Magistrates' Court heard that on 20 February 2018, CNC Speedwell Limited employee Malgorzata Musiol, 23, was seriously injured when her gloved hand became entangled in the exposed rotating parts of a stud assembly machine. Her index finger and the tendon along her arm were severely damaged.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found employees had been using an unsafe system of work placing items by hand very close to exposed rotating parts of the machine whilst wearing gloves. Various options were available to prevent this injury had the work been risk assessed, including guarding and two-handed controls. A safe system of work should have been in place and operators should have received suitable training.

CNC Speedwell Limited of Lichfield Road, Brownhills, West Midlands pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974. The company was fined £130,000 and ordered to pay costs of £10,909.

Speaking after the hearing, HSE inspector Elizabeth Thomas said: "Horrific, life changing injuries sustained in entanglement incidents can be avoided by simply carrying out correct control measures and safe working practices.

"Companies should be aware that HSE will not hesitate to take appropriate enforcement action against those that fall below the required standards."

## **Notes to Editors:**

- 1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety. We prevent work-related death, injury and ill health through regulatory actions that range from influencing behaviours across whole industry sectors through to targeted interventions on individual businesses. These activities are supported by globally recognised scientific expertise. [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)**
- 2. More about the legislation referred to in this case can be found at: [www.legislation.gov.uk/](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/)**
- 3. HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>**

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# Manufacturing firm fined after employee fatally crushed

A company, which manufactures adhesive tape, has been fined after a worker was fatally injured while operating a rewind slitting machine.

Luton Magistrates Court heard how on 10 April 2018, Mr Brett Dolby was operating the machine, designed to cut a large roll of adhesive material into narrower rolls, when he was drawn into an in-running nip between a rotating roller and the adhesive material. Mr Dolby's colleagues found him trapped in the machine at the factory in Dunstable, having suffered fatal crush injuries.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that Mr Dolby was required to work close to an unguarded in-running nip whilst the rewind slitting machine was in operation, which presented a hazard due to rotating parts. The risk assessment for the machine was inadequate because it failed to identify the in-running nips and other hazards on the machine. Therefore, machine operators were provided with inadequate information and training relating to the risks associated with this operation; and employees were placed at severe risk of injury.

The company previously received advice in 2012 from both HSE and an external consultant in relation to the guarding of machinery on site, but had failed to take action to ensure the necessary guarding of the rewind slitting machine prior to the incident in April 2018.

Scapa UK Limited of Ashton Under Lyne, Manchester, pleaded guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, and was fined £120,000 and ordered to pay full costs of £15,192.68.

After the hearing HSE inspector Emma Page said "This tragic incident could easily have been prevented if the company had properly assessed and applied effective control measures to minimise the risks from dangerous parts of the machinery.

"The dangers associated with in-running nips are well known, and a wealth of advice and guidance is freely available from HSE and other organisations.

"Employers should be aware that HSE will not hesitate to take appropriate enforcement action against those that fall below the required standards."

HSE guidance on the safety requirements for plastic sheet and film winders is available here: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/ppis11.pdf>

**Ends**

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ill health. It does so through research, information and advice, promoting training; new or revised regulations and codes of practice, and working with local authority partners by inspection, investigation and enforcement.

[hse.gov.uk](http://hse.gov.uk)[1]

2. More about the legislation referred to in this case can be found at: [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk)[2]

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## [Manufacturing company fined after employee loses fingers](#)

A manufacturing company has been fined after a worker's hand was damaged whilst carrying out machinery repairs.

Manchester Magistrates' Court heard how, on 27 July 2018, an employee of Preston Board and Packaging Limited was trying to repair a cardboard slitting machine. Whilst in the process of lifting a chain back onto a sprocket, a roller attached to the chain dropped to the base of the machine trapping his fingers under the chain, resulting in his left-hand ring finger and the tip of his middle finger being severed.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found there was no risk assessment or safe system of work in place for replacing/repairing safety wires and chains on the slitter machine.

Preston Board and Packaging Limited, Green Bank Street, Preston pleaded guilty to breaching section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. The company was fined £33,500 and ordered to pay costs of £5,527.16.

HSE inspector Mike Lisle said after the hearing "This injury was easily preventable. The task had been carried out a number of times previously and the risks should have been identified. Employers should properly risk assess machinery operations then apply effective control measures and robust safe systems of work to minimise the risk to employees from dangerous parts of machinery".

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## [Essex engineering firm sentenced after worker suffered serious hand injuries](#)

An engineering firm was sentenced for safety breaches after a worker severed two fingers.

Chelmsford Magistrates' Court heard that on 5 June 2018 an employee of Essex Governor Services Limited was polishing a work piece with an emery cloth whilst it was rotating in a manual metal working lathe at the company site in Colchester. His index and middle finger were severed as they were dragged in between the tool and the chuck. He later had his index finger sewn back in the place of his middle finger, but the other one could not be saved.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found the unsafe practice of using emery cloths in this way was custom and practice at the site. Essex Governor Services Limited had failed to identify the risks associated with the activity and as a result these practices had continued over a significant period. In addition, employees and their supervisor had not been provided with adequate information, instruction and training to work safely on the lathes.

Essex Governor Services Limited of Wormingford Road, Fordham, Colchester, pleaded guilty to breaching section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. The company has been fined £24,000 and ordered to pay costs of £4414.48 and victim surcharge of £170.

After the hearing HSE inspector Carla Baron said; "This incident could have easily been avoided had appropriate training and supervision been in place.

"Companies should be aware that HSE will not hesitate to take appropriate enforcement action against those that fall below the current standards. In this particular case, there is well-known industry guidance published on the HSE website that prohibits the application of a cloth directly by hand on a rotating manual metal working lathe."

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3. HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>
4. <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/eis2.pdf>

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## [London Fabric Show Is Heaped With Glory](#)



Five up and an all out winner the 5th London Fabric Show to be held at Chelsea's FC's Stamford Bridge Ground ended with accolades a plenty. A feast of fabrics was on display and both exhibitors and visitors left the show in sprightly mood after a positive and successful show.

James Lowe from Aqua Clean, who launched a number of new inherently fire resistant and wipe cleanable fabrics at the event said as the show ended, "This has been the best London Fabric we have ever exhibited at, we had only real, positive

customers,  
and there was a steady flow of customers on both days which made the show extremely manageable for us and pleasurable for the visitors. Can't wait for 2020!"

Organised by the BFM (British Furniture Manufacturers Association), the 2-day event ended on 5<sup>th</sup> March and featured 38 high-end fabric producers and suppliers from Europe, including 10 from Belgium, 9 from Turkey and 9 from the UK.

Attended by fabric buyers from the biggest names in UK upholstery, along with buyers from many group retail stores, the show featured the latest designs in everything from heavy duty jacquards to light cottons and also new fire and stain resistant fabric treatments.

New exhibitors, Bill Beaumont from Lancashire, Ragolle Textiles from Belgium and Teksium Tekstil from Turkey all reported their satisfaction at the event and vowed to return next year.

The renowned Belgian exhibitors including Annabel, Boyteks and Ter Molst were also keen to express their praise of the 2019 show with Koen Mortier from Ter Molst saying "It has been an excellent show, we are very pleased and saw everyone we wanted to see."

Turkish companies who are also a central part of the show, had a vast array of different fabric types and designs to show to the willing buyers. Adoksan, Aydin, Marstek and Yakar are among the regular exhibitors who find the show invaluable in reaching the full breadth of UK buyers in one hit.

British companies are another firm fixture at the London Fabric Show and included many prominent returning exhibitors – Abraham Moon, Art of the Loom, British Velvets, Mobus and Warwick Fabrics among them. Showing their newly launched National Trust Collection, Abraham Moon which left the show in spirited mood with their sales manager Julian Smith saying "It would take 2 months of solid driving around to see all of the companies that we can see here in 2 days.

This show is a winner and we'll definitely be back next year."

The relaxed and sociable atmosphere at the show also makes it a special event in the UK furniture calendar. Outgoing BFM MD Jackie Bazeley, said, "I am gratified to go out on a high. This show has become an essential date in the diary for many of our members. It is always a pleasure to see so many well-known and friendly faces at Chelsea and I'm sure that the show will continue to develop and thrive. We have had great feedback already from this year's event and I'm thrilled at its success."

The show will return to Chelsea FC's West Stand in 2020 and the dates will be announced shortly.

[www.londonfabricshow.uk](http://www.londonfabricshow.uk)



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