

SAFETY ALERT



AUSTRALIAN STEEL INSTITUTE
SAFETY GROUP

"Sharing incident learnings amongst ASI member companies"

"A vision of a safer steel industry"

Number:	SA0033
Subject:	Puncture Finger Using Drill
Date:	February 2008

Incident:

An employee was working in a trade-area and wanted to complete the assigned tasks prior to ending the day. While drilling holes to complete the product, the drill was placed facing towards (not away from) the employee. The rotating drill bit slipped causing the drill bit to puncture the right Index finger.



Figure 1 Drilling towards self – **Not Preferred**



Figure 2 Drilling away from self - **Preferred**

Key Lessons:

- ***To alert all employees to the potential danger when rushing to complete tasks and using powered hand tools.***

Recommendations:

- **Where practical, use vices to secure the product, avoid hand 'clamping' and always drill away from body.**
- **The correct gloves to be worn unless they hinder the process of safe work.**

For further information please contact **Ian Cairns** – National Safety Group Co-ordinator:
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