

ANTIQUATED EQUIPMENT CAN KILL



A New Brunswick worker died when his clothing became entangled in a shaft he was turning on a lathe. WorkSafeNB's investigation revealed that the lathe was an older model that had been modified over the years and lacked the safety features of more modern lathes.

Recommended Preventive Action

- Before acquiring older equipment, ensure it can be safely operated.
- Compare the older model equipment with today's technology. All safety devices that can be retrofitted to older equipment should be installed.
- Controls should be relocated away from hazardous areas and an emergency stopping system installed.
- Safeguards should be installed to prevent contact with revolving parts and materials.
- Older equipment may require a more rigorous maintenance and inspection schedule than newer equipment.
- Operators must be instructed in the safe operation of equipment.
- When antiquated equipment is sold, the purchaser should be fully informed of the modifications and hazards associated with the equipment.

In New Brunswick workplaces, all machines must comply with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act, Regulation 91-191*, Part XVI – Mechanical Safety, sections 235-261, regardless of their age.

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