

# Safety Flash

# Incident with Recordable Injury

**Incident:** The crew was installing c-channels on either side of the wall over a door opening. Because a fire door was installed in the opening, they had to remove a fusible link (cable) to install the channels. The door was propped with 2x4s to prevent it from closing after the link was removed.

Before work started, the door supplier was asked if the task was something the crew could do. The door contractor said they could do it, but they must secure the door. When a worker in an aerial lift removed an "s" hook connected to the door, the door's drum mechanism rotated back and caught his left index finger on the block.

## Possible contributing factors

- The fusible link had to be removed an unfamiliar task for the crew.
- The door contractor did not tell the crew that the door would still be under pressure even when propped open – so the crew didn't fully understand the hazard created by removing the fusible link.
- The tension on the cable was not properly controlled.
- The worker's body position put him in the line of fire when the drum started to rotate and the bar hit the lift.

#### Primary contributing factor

■ The door contractor did not tell the crew that the door would still be under pressure even when propped open — so the crew didn't fully understand the hazard created by removing the fusible link.

#### Possible solutions

- Use the experts. Ask the door contractor to remove the cable/fusible link.
- Make sure the crew identifies all hazards, including pinch points, before starting work.
- Remove the cable from the opposite side of the wall, away from the door.

#### Action plan:

- Gather sufficient information about every task.
- Information is being added to the pre-installation process safety summary.

### **Keep improving**

Your health and safety are our core value on every project. If you see a way we can support you in keeping our job sites safe, see your supervisor or contact: Jim Philo, 419/654-2043; Rich Franklin, Michigan, 734/679-7283; Alan Doane, Cleveland, 440/429-0639; Chad Metzger, Lima, 419/279-5348 or Mark Hoffman, 419/360-9280.

The drum mechanism that swung counterclockwise and pinched the worker's finger.

