

June 15, 2000

OR-OSHA HAZARD ALERT



A machinist was fatally injured when a metal part being turned in a vertical metal lathe was ejected from the chuck as the tool bit contacted the part. The part traveled through the lexan shield striking the operator in the chest and knocking him to the floor.

The door is not a guard. Do not rely on it to protect the operator if the part comes out of the chuck.

In all lathe operations ensure that:

parts being machined (cast or fabricated) are within dimensional tolerances to maintain proper chuck and cutting tool engagement.

adequate pressure is being applied by the chuck jaws to the part being turned.

there is adequate engagement of the jaws on part being turned to retain the part in all turning operations.

Hazard alerts are produced by the Oregon OSHA Standard and Technical Resources Section. They provide information on unusual safety or health hazards, or unusual or hazardous materials or practices. They contain information from OR-OSHA field staff, research from the Standards and Technical Resources staff and various published materials.

For more information, contact Bob Thiessen at 503-378-3272 or visit our web site at www.orosha.org.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Oregon OSHA, Technical Services at (503) 378-3272 or toll-free, in Oregon, 1-800-922-2689 (all numbers are V/TTY), or via the Internet World Wide Web at: **tech.web@state.or.us**