

Alert



Outline the Scene	Incident	Cut to thumb with pipe cutters
	Subject	Contact with sharp objects
	Incident Date	22/04/2026
	Business Unit	Fletcher Living – CentralNorth Region

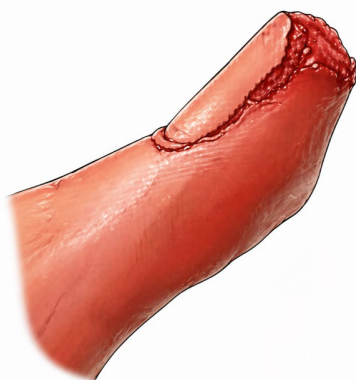
What happened?



A worker sustained a hand injury while cutting PEX pipe after using a thumb as a measuring guide for the pipe length. During the cutting process, a pipe cutter was used, and the blade sliced the fleshy part and top of the thumb. Initial reports indicate that hand protection (gloves) were not being worn at the time of the incident.

The worker continued working on the day of the injury but sought medical treatment from a GP the following day. As a precaution, X-rays were taken to check for any underlying bone damage. Fortunately, no bone damage was identified, and a skin graft was not required. The worker was booked off work for several days to allow for recovery.

Injury depiction



We believe all injuries are prevenatable, here are some questions to help us learn



- 1) Is it common or acceptable practice to use fingers as measuring guides? How should we be doing it instead?
- 2) Was the risk of hand placement near the blade considered before starting the task?
- 3) Gloves are mandatory for this task. What prevented the injured person from wearing them?
- 4) Are all contractors aware of the requirement to report injuries to the site team as soon as possible?

For more information, please contact;

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