



Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd

SAFETY ALERT

ARTC NSW No. 66



Issued 25/10/13

HAMMER INSPECTION

INCIDENT:

A worker, was struck on the leg by a piece of flying metal, resulting in a laceration

DETAILS:

The worker was using a “spiking hammer” to assist in the removal of rail anchors.

Unknown to the worker at the time, a metal fragment broke off the hammer and struck the worker on the leg. It was not until the worker felt “dampness on his trousers” that he noted blood coming from a laceration to his leg.

The worker was wearing long trousers



ACTION:

ALL HAMMERS ARE TO BE INSPECTED IMMEDIATELY. ANY DEFECTIVE OR FAULTY EQUIPMENT NEEDS TO BE “TAGGED OUT” AND REMOVED FROM SERVICE

All tools/equipment need to be inspected, on a regular basis, prior to use. With some tools, this may mean inspecting every time before they are used. This especially applies to tools where there is metal striking metal during their use/operation. Tools need to be inspected for “mushrooming”, cracks, splits and un-even wear.

- Advise all employees under your control of this Safety Alert.
- Place the Safety Alert on display
- Ensure a “sign-off” (for example, a Team Safety Meeting record) is obtained to verify that employees have been briefed on this Safety Alert.