

WHAT HAPPENED?

An employee attempted to sharpen a chisel with a bench grinder. He started to sharpen the chisel when the grinding wheel exploded into many pieces flying in all directions. Luckily there were no injuries. The employee was NOT wearing proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and the grinder's safety shield had been removed.

The Employee felt he was only going to use the grinder for a short time so he did not inspect the grinder and did not bother putting on the proper PPE.



WHAT DID/COULD HAVE WENT WRONG?

The employee could have sustained serious injuries or even death.

Other employees working close by also could have been hurt or killed.

KEY LESSON FROM INCIDENT

Never take short cuts, just because you are only using the grinder (or any tool) for a short time. You should follow all safety rules and practices such as PPE and Inspection requirements.

Some Safety Tips to Follow

- Ensure grinding wheels are inspected (check for cracks, is the grinding wheel tight, etc.)
- Ensure the grinding wheel is the correct wheel for the grinder, (RPM's and wheel size)
- Ensure tool rest (guarding) is within 1/8in (3mm) of the wheel

-Ensure Proper PPE is worn when using grinder: Eye protection (safety glasses and full face shield), Gloves and Hearing protection

