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WORKER INJURED BY SKID HOOK

DESCRIPTION:

A worker using a skid hook to grasp timbers was injured when the skid hook struck the worker's knee. The worker was stacking timbers under pipe sections for further work. The timbers were frozen and covered with ice and snow which caused the hook to slip and contacting the workers knee resulting in a puncture wound that later became infected.



TYPICAL SKID HOOK

CAUSE:

- Timbers were frozen and ice-covered
- Improper body positioning, in the line of fire

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

The hazard analysis did not take environmental changes into account.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

The company:

- Re-issue and review the safe work practice (SWP) for skid hook handling with all affected crews.
- Conduct focused inspections on skid hook use as laid out in the SWP.
- Develop and implement a competency evaluation for skid hook use.

General considerations:

- Determine proximity to other workers when working with skid hooks.
- Ensure workers are familiar with and competent in the use of skid hooks.
- Workers body position not in the line of fire.
- Conduct hazard assessments prior to all tasks.