Engineer the Hand Out of Hazard™

A Field Summary of PSC Hand Safety Doctrine

Measure Exposure Before Injury Happens™ · Where Does the Hand Enter the Hazard?™

OPENING STATEMENT

Hand safety cannot stop at PPE. Most hand safety programmes begin with gloves, posters, toolbox talks, and reminders. These are useful — but they do not remove the reason the hand enters the hazard. PSC Hand Safety starts with the task: *where the hand enters, why it enters, and what engineered control can keep it out.*

CORE DOCTRINE

Engineer the Hand Out of Hazard™
Primary PSC doctrine

Measure Exposure Before Injury Happens™
Proactive exposure assessment

Where Does the Hand Enter the Hazard?™
Task-level hazard mapping

Zero hand injuries does not always mean zero hand exposure.
Exposure ≠ injury count

Gloves protect after exposure occurs — not before.
PPE is residual protection, not primary control

THE PSC HAND EXPOSURE QUESTION

Before asking "what glove should the worker wear?", ask:

- Where does the hand enter the hazard?
- What task function is the hand performing?
- Can that function be performed by a tool, fixture, guide, handle, hook, magnet, tagline, distance method, or redesigned interface?
- What residual risk remains after exposure is reduced?

COMMON HAND EXPOSURE TYPES

EXPOSURE TYPE	TYPICAL TASK / WHAT TO LOOK FOR
Pinch	Fingers at closing gap between component and fixture
Crush	Hand at final landing / seating of load
Cut	Sheet, plate, casting, profile edge
Burn	Billet, casting, die, pipe contact
Impact	Hand holding struck tool during hammering
Caught-Between	Sling, load, fixture, or machine convergence
Line of Fire	Worker path: crane, deck load, tubular, hose

TASK FUNCTION MAPPING — WHAT IS THE HAND DOING?

WHAT THE HAND IS DOING	POSSIBLE CONTROL DIRECTION
Pushing / pulling	Push-pull tool, distance pole
Guiding suspended load	Tagline / load-control line, load positioning tool
Final alignment	Push/pull tool, magnetic tool where suitable, fixture
Holding during hammering	Fingersaver, chisel holder, pin holder
Handling hose	Specialised hose handling tool
Handling tubular / pipe	Tubular handling / pipe positioning tool
Retrieving object	Hook, magnetic lifter where suitable, retrieval tool
Holding sharp / hot material	Fixture, distance tool, handling aid
Reaching into machine	Redesign task · Isolate equipment · Approved tool only after LOTO

CONTROL HIERARCHY FOR HANDS

1	**Eliminate the hand entry**
2	Redesign the task interface
3	Mechanical guides, fixtures, automation
4	No-touch / distance tools
5	Task-specific hand safety tools
6	SOPs, training, supervision
7	Gloves & PPE — residual only

PPE is necessary, but should not be the first or only control where the task can be redesigned.

WORK WITH PSC HAND SAFETY

Send Us Your Task Photos or Videos.

PSC Hand Safety can help identify whether the task needs:

- A standard no-touch tool
- A magnetic handling tool
- A custom task interface
- A modified or custom tool
- A hose or tubular handling tool
- A fixture or work-method change

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