



No Gloves is Sometimes Better

Did you know that there are certain situations where wearing gloves increases the risk for a more severe injury?

We often get asked by customers what gloves should be worn when operating machinery such as grinding wheels, sanders, polishers, etc. Bottom line is that anytime the individual is working with machinery that utilizes a rotating wheel they should not wear gloves at all! Many cut-resistant gloves will put a warning on the tag to not use their glove with any serrated or rotating powered blades.

Here are six reasons to not wear gloves (or an employer should not allow them to be worn) while working with grinders:

- Amputations
- General duty of employer to provide a workplace free of recognized hazards
- Gloves can catch on rotating equipment and pull operators hands into the equipment
- Rotation of grinding wheels is at high RPM's
- Operator cannot get hand out of glove when it catches
- Equipment horsepower and machine material properties exceed those of the operator's flesh

Here are the PPE that should be considered when operating a grinding wheel or similar machinery:

- Safety glasses with side shields or goggles—flying chips and dust

- Face shield—flying chips and particles
- Respirator—dust and fumes
- Hearing protection—noise generated by equipment

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