

Safety Alert 2: Accident with a sledgehammer

Accident description

- When wall stones were being split with a sledgehammer, a metal fragment came off the sledgehammer, and flew onto the upper part of the worker's right thigh, penetrating his work clothes.
- The metal fragment penetrated into a depth of ca. 3 cm in the worker's thigh causing a three-day absence from work.
- At worst, the fragment could have hit e.g. the neck or thigh artery.

Corrective actions

- The primary action is to invest in a stone cutting device.
- Prior to the implementation of the investment, protective clothing shall be improved immediately.
 - Thicker protective aprons than before.
 - In addition to a face visor, also full cover goggles are to be used (type ski goggles).
 - Particular attention shall be paid to the protection of the neck area, using e.g. a hockey player's neck guard.
- Brittle edges shall be removed from sledgehammers on a regular basis.



The sledgehammer from which the metal fragment came off.