

Cracker Manufacturer Fined \$110,000 for Guarding Violation



A cracker manufacturing facility has an incline conveyor system, which is driven by a 6- to 7-foot-wide powered roller that rotated counter-clockwise, pulling the conveyor belt forward. One centimetre from the powered roller is an additional roller rotating clockwise to guide the belt. This combination of rollers created a pinch point. While this machine was still running, a worker noticed a piece of grip tape sticking out from the edge of the powered roller. When he grabbed the tape to tear it off the roller, his hand was pulled into the pinch point and suffered serious injuries and permanent restrictions. The manufacturer pleaded guilty to a guarding violation and was fined \$110,000 [*BFG Canada Ltd.*, Govt. News Release, June 14, 2016].