

Protect Your Workers From Grinding Wheel Hazards



‘Grinding wheels,’ or machines that power a wheel constructed of abrasive materials to spin at rapid speeds for grinding, smoothing, cutting, cleaning or shaping a fixed object are commonly found in maintenance and machine shops. Some grinding [wheels are fixed in place](#); others are [portable and handheld](#). All are potentially dangerous. Hazards include:

- Eye injuries caused by sparks, chips, dusts or flying objects from the object being grinded;
- Inhalation of dusts generated during grinding;
- Contact with moving machine parts; and
- Shattering or rupturing of the wheel causing parts to fly in all directions.

That’s why [OHS laws](#) require employers to [take measures](#) to ensure safe grinding wheel use. In addition to serious or even fatal injury, failure to comply with OHS requirements can also lead to fines, stop-work orders and other enforcement actions. Go to the OHSI website for a 7-step compliance [Game Plan](#) to ensure this doesn’t happen to you.