

Borates HSEQ Initial Alert

Incident Number: 1000502688

Incident: Operator struck above eye with a bungee cord when lining a shipping container
Preliminary Classification: Medical Treatment Injury (MTI)

Operation / Project: Boron (RTB)

Location: Shipping area

Date: 8/10/2018

Time: 4:45 pm

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What happened:

An operator was lining a dry bulk shipping container (installing a bag that will be filled with product). To do so, the operator first unrolled the bag onto the container floor, walked to the back of the container and attached two straps on the corners. Bungee cords are then attached on each side of the container mid-way, then the straps and bungee cords are installed at the front of the container before installing bars to hold the bag in place. When the operator was installing the second mid-way bungee cord, the plastic hook did not clip into place and the cord snapped back and struck the operator below the hard hat and above the right eye, knocking off the operator's safety glasses and lacerating the operator's right eyebrow. The operator was taken off site to receive sutures.

Preliminary findings:

- Environment: none
- Equipment: The hooks inside the container are 7'6" from the floor. The bungee cord once stretched contains stored energy, the bungee clips are made of plastic. Bag weight approximately 40 pounds. Step ladder was available but not used.
- People: The operator had to step on tip toes to reach the hooks in the container with the bungee cord. The plastic hook did not clip into place and recoiled. The operator was in the line of fire.

Initial learnings:

- Environment: none
- Equipment: All containers are not made the same way, hooks could be at different locations inside the container but always at least 7'1" high.
- People: Operators used different techniques to hook the bags.



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