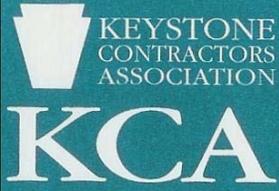


KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Nail Guns



TEAMWORK
IMPROVES SAFETY

Signatures

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Nail guns (nailers, pneumatic hammers, pneumatic nailers, and air-powered nailers) are fairly new types of tools. If the nail is not properly aimed and is shot before the operator is ready, it becomes hazardous. Many nail gun-related injuries occur from trigger misfires. Examples of misfires include double firing and unintended firing from accidental contact with the gun or a coworker.

Here is an Example Sam, a roofer in San Francisco, was using a nail gun when a fellow worker walked by and accidentally bumped into him. Sam was unable to control the nail gun and accidentally fired a nail into his foot. He was immediately rushed to the hospital. Sam had to wear a cast on his foot for more than a month. While his foot healed, he was unable to stand for a long amount of time. After his cast was removed, he was able to return to work.

1. What tools and equipment should be used when handling a nail gun?
2. Do we know where these tools and equipment are kept at your job?

Preventing Injuries from Nail Gun Use:

Do:

- Ask for a nail gun with a sequential trigger rather than a contact trip trigger. The latter "bump" nailers allow continuous nailing whenever the trigger and nose are depressed, but they have double the injury rate of sequential trigger nailers.
- Always wear safety glasses, use hearing protection and wear steel toe boots
- Always aim the tool away from the body and other people. The trigger may stick and the gun could fire even though you have not touched the trigger.
- Always disconnect the compressed air when not using the nailer, going up/down a ladder/stairs, passing the nail gun to a coworker, clearing jammed nails or performing maintenance.
- Get trained on using both types of nailers.

Don't:

- Don't fire the tool unless its nose is placed firmly against the work piece.
- Don't rest the tool against any part of the body.

For more information visit OSHA Standard: 28 CFR1926.302

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