

# Safety and health alert

## 04/02 Grain auger fatally injures young worker

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### Incident

A young farm worker was fatally injured when his clothing (jumper) became entangled in an exposed rotating shaft of a twin auger.

The person was directing grain from the twin augers into compartments of an air-seeding machine at the discharge end of the auger.

It appears that the person, who was working alone at that time, reached across one of the augers to turn off the feed to the other when the rotating shaft entangled his jumper.

### Factors

1. The shaft ends of the augers were not guarded.
2. Location of the controls allowed the person to reach from his work position across dangerous moving parts to operate the controls.
3. The person wore loose clothing and worked in close proximity to unguarded moving parts.

### Recommendations

1. Dangerous moving parts of plant must be adequately guarded. If a plant is not adequately guarded, it must not be used unless a safe system of work is in place and operators of the plant are adequately trained in its safe use.
2. Ensure controls to operate plant are not accessible from a work position that will expose a person to dangerous moving parts.
3. Do not wear loose clothing and work in close proximity to unguarded moving parts of plant.

### Further Information

Further information can be obtained from the WorkSafe internet site [www.worksafe.wa.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.wa.gov.au), or by contacting customer service on 1300 307 877 or email: [safety@docep.wa.gov.au](mailto:safety@docep.wa.gov.au).

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