

Infrastructure Projects Southern: Safety Flash Report

IP Southern Safety Flash 16-22 dated 21 March 2016

Preventing hand injuries



Typical hand injuries caused by slamming lids and doors. In extreme cases this can lead to amputation of fingers.

A carpenter was injured as a result of a van tool vault lid falling on to his hand while he was organising his tools. This caused a fracture to his hand, requiring him to be in plaster for six weeks.

However, this is not the only injury in the Southern Region caused by lids and doors slamming shut. While it is an agreed Southern Shield Charter item for welfare facilities to have door closers fitted, you should check all van vaults and tool stores to make sure they are in good working order. You could also consider fitting hydraulic rams as the preferred mechanism for controlling the closure of lids.

Thanks to Osborne, who have produced some lessons for sharing, including the actions you can take to prevent this type of injury happening on your sites.

More information:

- Attached is the Osborne's Stop Think Alert on van tool vaults
- The Charter can be downloaded from our [Southern Shield website](#)

