

# SAFETY NOTES

Department of Consumer & Business Services  
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division  
Salem, OR 97310

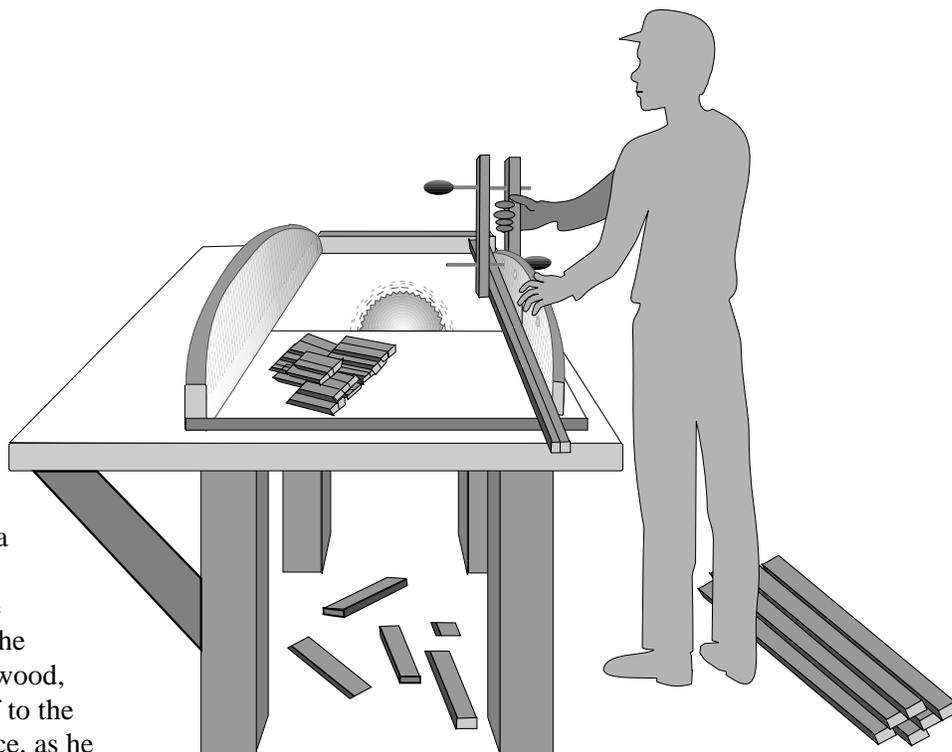
## Accident Report

Accident type ..... Finger amputation  
Industry ..... Retail/ Manufacturing  
Employee job title ..... Sales employee, wood shop

### **Description of accident**

A 19-year-old employee of a specialty wood retailer/door manufacturer was using a table saw to cut small pieces of wood called pen blanks. The employee, working alone in the workshop area of the business, used an in-house-made sliding cradle jig to guide the wood into the unguarded blade of the saw. As he cut the small pieces of wood, he picked them up and set them off to the left side of the blade. In this instance, as he moved cut pieces, his right hand came in contact with the table saw blade, and his little finger was amputated and his other three fingers on that hand were cut.

The victim's finger was put into water upon discovery of the accident. First aid was given and the victim was transported to a hospital for reattachment of the severed finger.



### **Investigation findings**

The victim (and other employees) had not been specifically trained to cut pen stock, although the task was considered part of the sales staff's duties. He was not supervised as he cut pen stock.

The saw, which was designed for cross-cutting lumber, had its blade-guard hood removed to allow for the use of the cradle jig, despite previous incidents with that procedure and recommendations concerning the hazardous situation by both the safety committee and an outside safety consultant.

### **Applicable OSHA standards**

- OAR 437-01-765(6)(b)(C)
- OAR 437-01-765(6)(g)
- 29 CFR 1910.213(d)(1)
- OAR 437-01-760(1)(a)