

Date	13 March 2014	Ref	HSEQB130314-1
-------------	---------------	------------	---------------

Loose clothing / Hooded Tops

There has been a recent industry fatality where a contractor who was using a hand held powered rotating wire brush which caught on a neck muff he was wearing. The rotating brush drew the muff inwards causing it to tighten around his neck pressing on his respiratory tract. Despite being given CPR and the use of a Defibrillator the contractor unfortunately died.



During cold weather it is common place for operatives who are working outside to wear hooded sweatshirts some of which have draw cords. As can be seen from the picture below it is



foreseeable that an entanglement hazard exists when wearing hooded tops that have gathered material around the neck similar to the muff that became caught and lead to the contractors death as described above.

With immediate effect the wearing of hooded type tops or neck muffs is no longer permitted on Pyeroy operational sites.

Site Management Teams should examine their current site arrangements and Risk Assessments to ensure that where an entanglement hazard exists it has been identified in the task Risk Assessment and suitably controlled through the correct application of control measures and provision of PPE that does not introduce a new hazard.

PPE such as Zero Hoods are available that protect the neck, do not interfere with the wearing of a hard hat and do not present an entanglement hazard.

To help stay comfortable during cold weather operatives should be encouraged to wear layers of lightweight clothing rather than one thick layer. A neck muff or hooded top may keep your neck warm, it could also seriously injure or kill you if working with machinery.

If you require further information please contact your local SHE Advisor

