



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



SA-03-03

Langley Research Center Safety Alert

Date: January 31, 2003

TO: All Center Personnel
FROM: 429/Head, Safety and Facility Assurance Office, OSMA
SUBJECT: Use of LaRC Shop Machines and Power Tools

CAUTION

Only Authorized Personnel Shall Use LaRC Shop Machines or Power Tools

At 11:12 am on Sunday, January 19, 2003, LaRC's Emergency Dispatch Officer received a 911 call from a LaRC employee stating that he had cut his fingers on a table saw in Building 1208. Emergency personnel responded and found the employee bleeding from cuts on the middle and index fingers of the left hand. They performed first aid and transported the employee to the hospital. An investigation concluded that the cuts resulted from contacting the saw blade. Also, the employee was not authorized to use the table saw.

This incident demonstrates that LaRC's shop machines and power tools are very hazardous and shall only be used by authorized personnel. Use by unauthorized personnel could result in disciplinary action. Even worse, it could result in the user being severely injured for life. Just imagine losing a finger. It may affect your ability to write, play sports or a musical instrument, or enjoy other activities you presently enjoy.

To determine if you are considered an authorized user of a shop machine or power tool, speak with the Facility Safety Head or Facility Coordinator responsible for the equipment. If you have any questions, please contact the Safety and Facility Assurance Office, 47233 (4-SAFE) or the undersigned.

Grant M. Watson
43069

421/A. H. Phillips

(This Safety Alert to be posted on Facility Bulletin Boards for a Minimum of 30 days.)