



## SAFETY ALERT

### Pressure Washer Use

September 6, 2024

A worker was injured when he attempted to change the nozzle of a pressure washer without first turning off the machine and relieving the pressure from the line. While one hand was holding the wand and the other inserting the nozzle, the trigger was inadvertently activated causing a pressurized fluid injection to his finger.



#### Safe Use

- Turn off and depressurize the pressure washer when not in use or before doing maintenance or changing nozzles.
- If the pressure washer is out of your line of sight, use lockout tagout procedures to prevent inadvertent start-up.
- Keep the quick-connect and nozzle insert clean and free of debris. Debris can interfere with the locking connection and potentially allow the nozzle to be shot out.
- Wear proper PPE to protect yourself from high pressure fluid and debris. Steel-toed shoes, gloves, safety glasses and face shield attached to your hardhat.
- Aim the wand carefully and know what (or who) could be impacted by the spray or debris.
- Be aware of slippery surfaces and material on the soles of your shoes.
- If you are unsure of a safe way to do the operation or if something unexpected happens – Stop Work and seek help.