



**National Fire Fighter Near-Miss Reporting System
Reports Related Agricultural Extrication**

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10-640

Event Description

We were called to a fire in a manufacturing facility. Upon arrival, we found a machine on fire. The fire was extinguished and power to the machine was turned off, locked out, and tagged out. When we went to take the machine apart, we got shocked because the power was back feeding into the machine.

Lessons Learned

Use a meter to test for power in a machine, even if you have the power shut off.

10-457

Event Description

Note: Brackets denote reviewer de-identification.

We had a large dryer fire. The dryer was used to dry pet-bedding wood chips. The chips would be dried in the dryer and then augured to a cooler silo. The auger was clogged, causing the fire. During overhaul, we were ordered to disassemble the auger to unclog it. The dryer was outside with no smoke, so no SCBA was needed. I was on a ladder disassembling the auger when air entered and a back-draft occurred. I was burned in [in several areas of my body]. Wood shavings melted to my gear and body. A crew came into the scene with hand-lines, putting out the fire. No TIC was used to search for heat or fire prior to overhaul. I spent three months off work healing, but luckily had no respiratory injuries.

Lessons Learned

Communication was poor and there was a lack of command.

Decision making was poor. We had been there before and we got lazy.

Proper equipment was not used – no SCBA /TIC.

Incident command was not used.

Tasks were ordered too quickly.

08-646

Event Description

As the Incident Commander, I observed a firefighter attempting to advance a line to the top of an excavator to extinguish hot spots as it was previously on fire. Stepping from the track to the top of the machine with 1.75" charged hand line in one hand, the firefighter slipped due to the machine being a frozen surface. While attempting to catch his balance, he opened the nozzle, which propelled him off the machine onto the ground that was an uneven surface with tree trunks. The firefighter was wearing full turnout with SCBA, but not on air.

Lessons Learned

Use ground ladder to access construction vehicles.
