

HAZARD ALERT

Industry: Firewood manufacturing

Age: 43 years

Experience: Unknown

Area: Vancouver Island

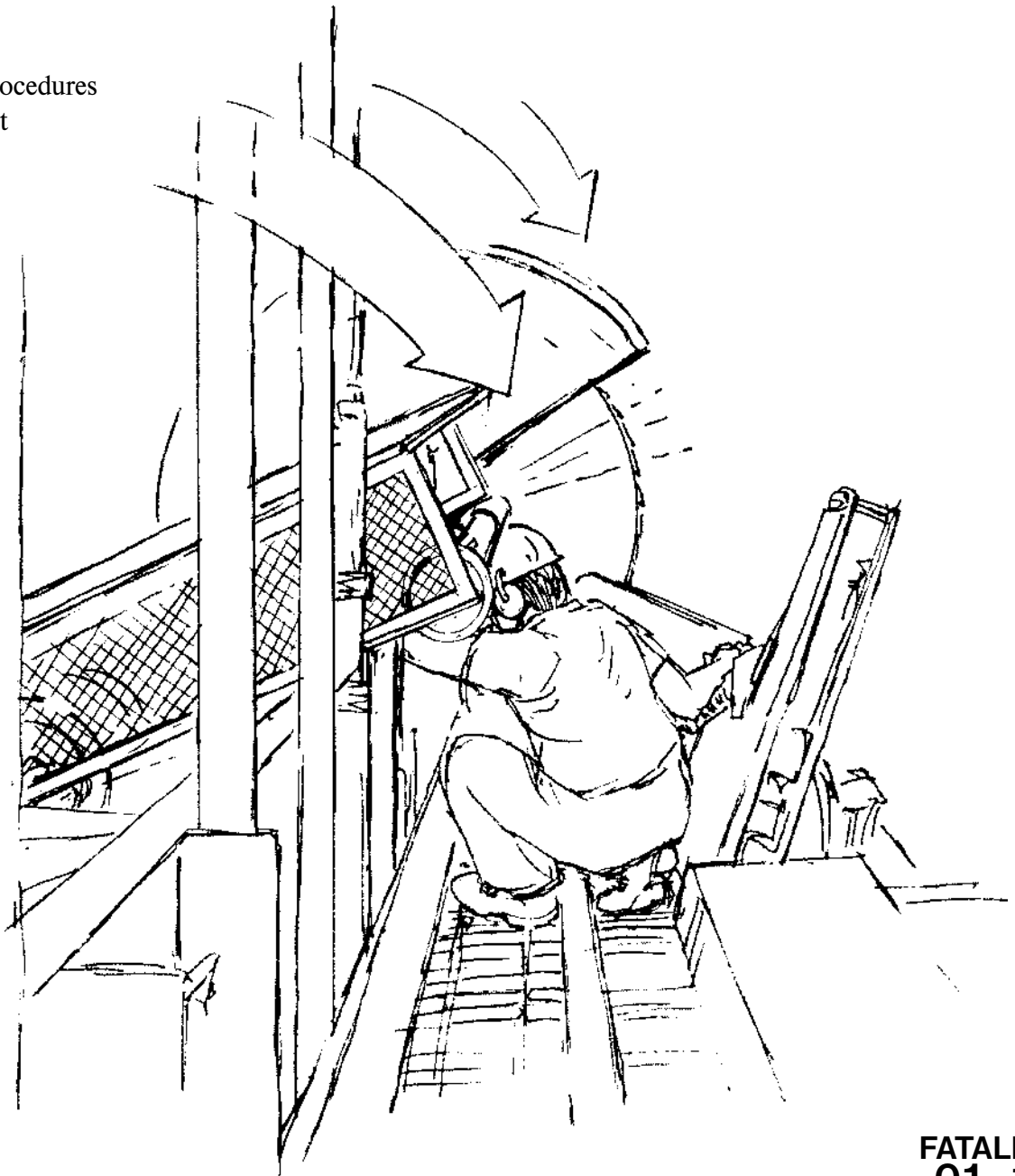
Worker fatally crushed in firewood mill

A firewood cutter was working alone operating a firewood-cutting mill. While the equipment was running, he placed his head in a pinch point between the elevated circular saw frame and the elevated log press roll. The saw frame was inadvertently lowered, perhaps by the worker's hand touching the nearby mechanical linkage to activate the hydraulic valve. His head and airway were crushed.

The worker was self-employed, with no co-workers to provide assistance and no procedure to check his well-being.

Safe work practices:

- Follow proper lockout procedures to prevent the inadvertent movement of equipment during repair or maintenance.
- When necessary, pin or block equipment operated by hydraulic pressure so that it cannot drop unexpectedly.
- Develop written procedures for checking the well-being of a worker working alone or in isolation, including establishing contact at predetermined intervals and at the end of the shift.



FATALITY
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