



VIC BAROCAS

**URGENT
SAFETY
MEMO
ON
TEXTILE
CLEANING
GUNS**



DR. RAYMOND WILSON (CENTER)

**TREATMENT OF INJURIES THAT CAN OCCUR
WHEN USING A TEXTILE CLEANING GUN**

WRITTEN BY

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Nearly every textile and screen print operation uses a textile cleaning gun similar to the one shown below. These guns are used in many different manners, but to both the experienced and inexperienced novice a clear danger exists. Screen Printers use the guns to remove cured plastisol from tee shirts, caps and jackets. Apparel Manufacturers use them to remove grease, soil and oil stains from finished goods. Textile Mills use them to clean-up stains from both finished and unfinished fabrics. These powerful electric sprayers are even used to degrease machinery.

Textile Cleaning Guns are manufactured in Taiwan, China, Japan, Switzerland and Germany. They are sold in the U.S. by many different companies that sell spot remover chemicals and various supplies.

Textile Cleaning Guns are configured to look much like electric paint sprayers, but that is where the similarity ends. The textile cleaning gun is powerful - very powerful - and this is why the potential for serious medical injury exists.

From time-to-time we get phone calls from frantic employers to inform us that an employee has injected some solvent into a body part. Almost always it is an injection wound in a finger. In the past we would advise them to go to an emergency room so that the physician could monitor them and send them home. The problem was that the attending physicians seldom knew exactly how to treat the wound, and we, did not know that this could be so very serious, possibly requiring amputation!!

We now know the correct steps to take. We urge you to read and understand the correct procedures to follow when and if someone injures themselves with the use of a textile cleaning gun.



Submitted by,
Vic Barocas & Dr. Raymond Wilson

It is our goal to make your work-place a safe-place



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**TREATMENT OF INJURIES THAT CAN OCCUR
WHEN USING A TEXTILE CLEANING GUN
WARNING: THIS IS A PUNCTURE WOUND AND WILL
REQUIRE MEDICAL ATTENTION... DO NOT DELAY!**

THERE ARE SEVERAL CONSIDERATIONS IN THE TREATMENT OF THIS TYPE OF WOUND, AND THEY ARE:

(1) THIS IS A PUNCTURE WOUND AND CARE MUST BE EXERCISED TO PREVENT INFECTION. THE WOUND MUST BE CLEANED AND CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF ANTI-BIOTICS AND TETANUS PROPHYLAXIS.

(2) THE INJECTED MATERIAL MAY HAVE CAUSED TISSUE DAMAGE AND DISTENSION WITH POSSIBLE VASCULAR COMPRESSION RESULTING IN EDEMA. SURGICAL RELIEF OF INTERNAL PRESSURE AND DRAINAGE MUST BE CONSIDERED (I&D OR INCISE & DRAIN).

(3) CHEMICAL IRRITATION OF TISSUE AND INFLAMMATION MAY RESULT. ALSO, POSSIBLE, BUT HIGHLY UNLIKELY ARE TOXIC OR ALLERGIC REACTIONS - SYSTEMICALLY (NORMALLY WITHIN MINUTES).

THE EARLY STAGE OF THIS TYPE INJURY MAY BE TRIVIAL WITH LITTLE OR NO PAIN OR DISCOMFORT. HOWEVER, IF THERE IS AN ACTUAL PUNCTURE WOUND AND INJECTION - SEVERE PAIN, SWELLING AND INFLAMATION CAN OCCUR WITHIN 2-4 HOURS.

IT MUST BE NOTED THAT CONTACT WITH THE SPRAYED MATERIAL MAY NOT HAVE CAUSED A PUNCTURE ALTHOUGH THERE IS AN INITIAL STINGING. THE AREA SHOULD BE EXAMINED FOR AN ACTUAL PUNCTURE AND OBSERVED FOR THE 2-4 HOUR PERIOD.

GET IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION!

USE YOUR TEXTILE CLEANING GUN WITH CARE



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