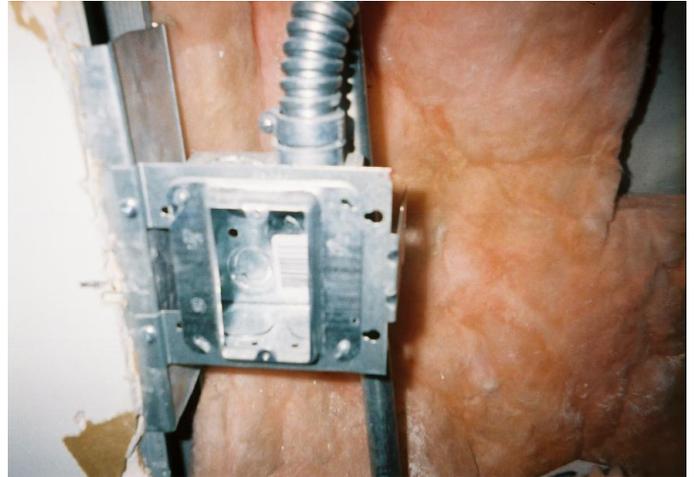


Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Mid-Atlantic

SAFETY ALERT

Incident Types: Failure to follow use PPE
Damage: Laceration to forearm/ 5 stitches
Type of Work: Renovation
Equipment: N/A



DESCRIPTION OF THE INCIDENT: Contractor was installing metal framing in an existing wall that needed to be patched with drywall. A one foot square piece of drywall was removed from this area to install an electrical box as part of the renovation. As employee was installing the metal stud he had his arm in the wall cavity to support the metal stud. After installing the stud he pulled his arm out of the wall cavity and his forearm caught the corner of the electrical box and cut his forearm requiring 5 stitches.

DIRECT CAUSE: Lack of using engineering controls to eliminate the hazard before performing the operation. Work area of wall was not opened sufficiently to allow work. Work area was too tight and required awkward work position to work

INDIRECT CAUSE: Improper work techniques to install metal stud. AHA did not define possible hazard of sharp edges nor were control measures implemented to eliminate or reduce the hazard to an acceptable level of risk considered.

ACTIONS REQUIRED: Safety stand down was held with jobsite personnel to review the proper procedures to perform the task safely. Provide a larger opening for patch so more space is available. Cut the existing drywall to an existing stud eliminating the need for additional studs in wall.