

## Woodworking Machine Guards

Woodworking machines are highly efficient and versatile tools used to perform a wide variety of cutting operations. By their very nature, they are one of most hazardous types of equipment found in industry, and are responsible for many permanent disabilities. The most frequent cause of serious injury in woodworking operations is the operation of unguarded or improperly guarded machinery. Woodworking machine accidents can be prevented! Effective guards are available to control the point of operation hazards of practically every woodworking machine operation. Properly guarded machines are not only much safer but can also be operated more efficiently.

### Saws:

- Rip saws should be provided with a hood that covers the saw at all times to the depth of the teeth. Hood should adjust itself automatically to thickness of, and remain in contact with, material being cut. A spreader and antikickback device should be provided. The exposed part of the saw underneath the table should be guarded.
- Band or saw resaw wheels should be completely enclosed and all portions of the blade should be guarded, except that portion between the guide rolls and the table.
- Radial saw. In addition to hood enclosing the blade, an adjustable stop should be provided to limit forward travel and head should automatically return to starting position. When used for ripping, a spreader and antikickback device should be provided.

### Jointer:

Jointer guards should automatically adjust themselves to cover all sections of the head on the working side of the fence or gage and should remain in contact with the material at all times. The section of the cutting head back of the fence or gage should also be guarded.

### Shaper:

The cutting head of each wood shaper should be enclosed by an adjustable guard so designed as to keep the operator's hand away from the cutting edge. Patterns or jigs for holding stock while shaping are also desirable.

**The most frequent cause of serious injury in woodworking operations is the operation of unguarded or improperly guarded machinery.**

The loss prevention information and advice presented in this brochure are intended only to advise our insureds and their managers of a variety of methods and strategies based on generally accepted safe practices, for controlling potentially loss producing situations commonly occurring in business premises and/or operations. They are not intended to warrant that all potential hazards or conditions have been evaluated or can be controlled. They are not intended as an offer to write insurance coverage for such conditions or exposures, or to simply that Great American Insurance Company will write such coverage. The liability of Great American Insurance Company is limited to the specific terms, limits and conditions of the insurance policies issued.

301 E. Fourth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202 F13352B-LP (01/13)