

FACT SHEET

PLATEN PRESS

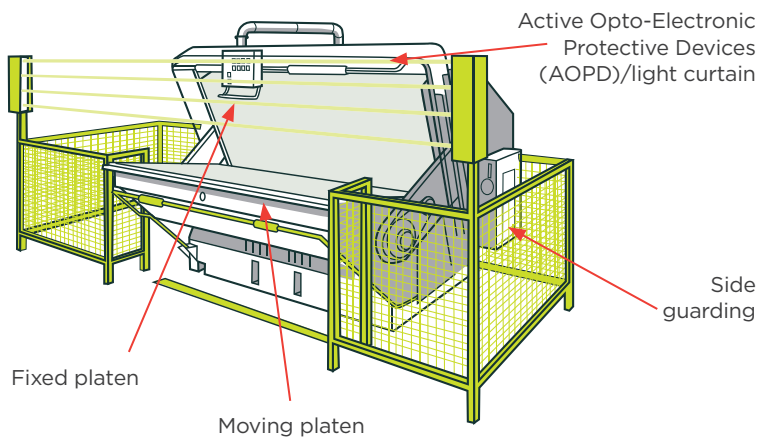
A platen press is a printing press in which paper or other material, supported on flat impression surfaces, is forced against printing surfaces that are supported on stationary flat beds. This includes creasing and scoring presses of the platen type.

Presses vary in size and methods of power, from small desk-mounted presses that may be handpowered, to large floor-mounted,

electrically-powered presses that are big enough to cut out adultsized images used in advertising.

Sometimes, the platen press is fed automatically, and may be part of a sequence of operations where materials are printed, cut, creased, folded and glued, to form cartons or boxes.

FIGURE 1: PLATEN PRESS



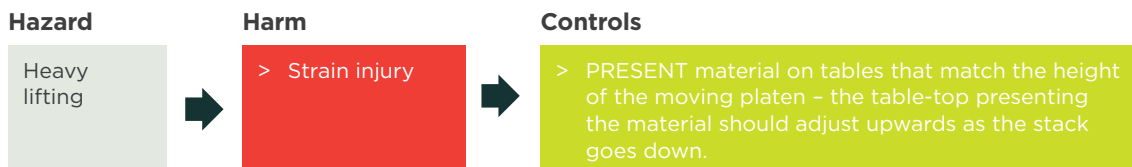
HAZARDS:

- > Heavy lifting
- > Entrapment from hand-fed platens
- > Contact or impact from moving parts/unwanted movement
- > Noise
- > Slips, trips and falls
- > Entrapment from unexpected movement (during maintenance, cleaning & repairs)

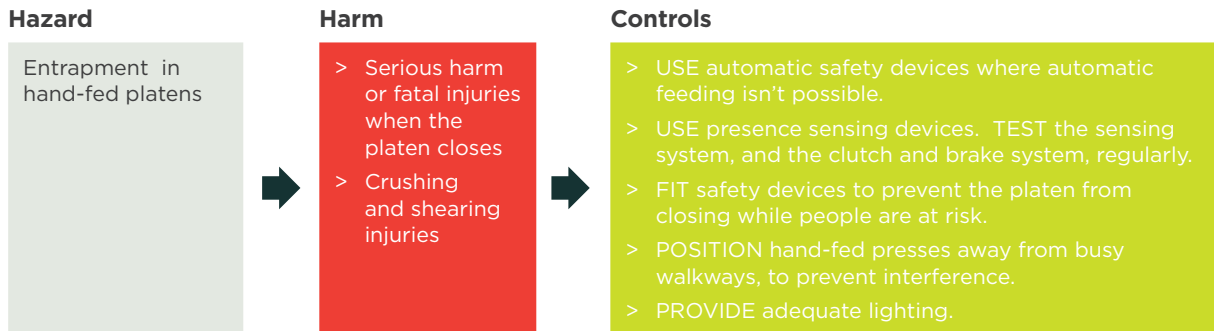
PPE:



TASK - LOAD & UNLOAD

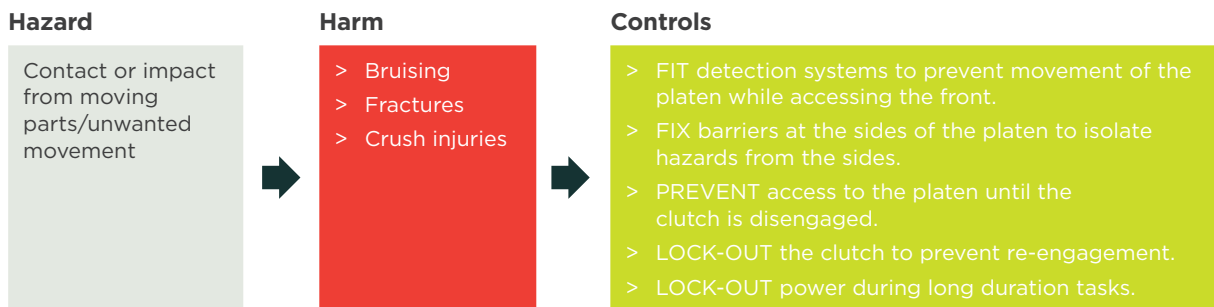


TASK – FEED MATERIALS TO THE PRESS



Hand-fed platens place operators at most risk. A small platen press (up to about one metre wide) has an opening large enough for a hand or arm to enter. A large press will allow most of an adult sized body between the platen and the bed, sometimes without detection by safety systems. Using continuous mode, where the platen closes automatically, is more of a risk than when the platen is started by the operator at the beginning of each cycle. When material is fed automatically, the automatic feed mechanism should ensure that hazards are isolated.

TASK – PRESS OPERATION



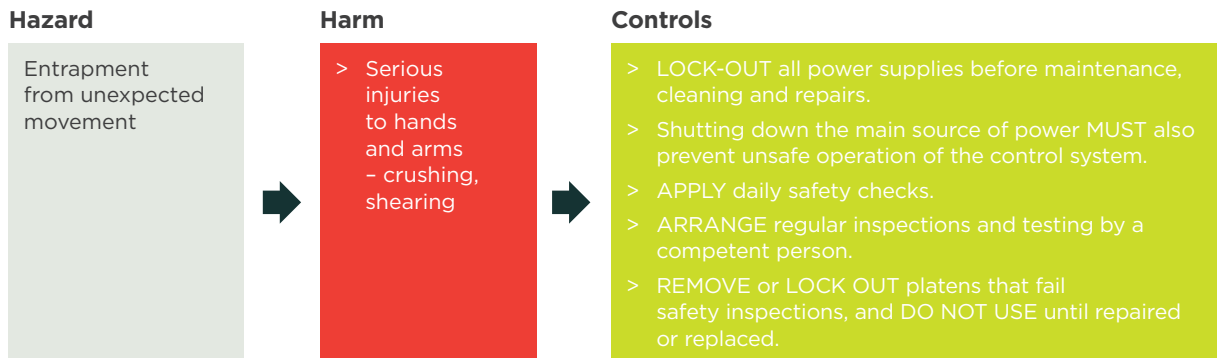
OTHER (NON-MECHANICAL) HAZARDS



A safe noise level over an eight hour day is 85dB(A). A platen press may exceed this noise intensity.



TASK - MAINTENANCE, CLEANING & REPAIRS



Any modifications to the original control circuits developed by the platen manufacturer MUST be fitted. When a platen is altered, for example, by changes to guards or barriers, a new hazard assessment MUST be performed, and safety improvements made.

References, current standards and further information can be found on the Safe Use of Machinery project page at: www.worksafe.govt.nz

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