



## Zero Harm Hazard Alert

### Operator Protective Structures - Polycarbonate

#### Confirmation of 19mm as the minimum thickness requirement for Lexan or Marguard screens

**A VicForests contractor recently received a significant hand injury when a piece of chain entered the cab of the harvester he was operating. The machine did not have a protective screen installed.**

VicForests requires machines, fitted with cut-off saws, to be fitted with impact resistant screens to protect operators against chain shot.

The minimum thickness for Marguard in machines with cut off saws is 19mm. This has been the industry practice for some time and is the recommendation of manufacturers.

Research indicates that 19 mm is the minimum thickness for this product to offer appropriate protection in all potential chain shot events. There are numerous references that can be found on the internet. Search 'chain shot'

The Australian Standard relevant to the installation of polycarbonate is AS/NZS 2343:1997 – Bullet-Resistant Panels and Elements

This will continue to be subject to audit.

