

PINCH POINT ON RENTAL TRUCK LIFT GATE

A man's thumb was severed when it was caught in a pinch point during operation of a lift gate mounted on the back of a rental truck. Examination of the truck revealed that the operator switch had been relocated from its originally installed position more than a foot away from the pinch point to a position within a few inches of the pinch point.

**MECHANICAL AND METALLURGICAL
EVALUATION OF DRILL BIT**

The shaft of a hammer drill bit fractured while drilling a water well. The bit was recovered and test specimens were machined from the shaft. The mechanical and metallurgical properties of the specimens revealed that the drill bit was fabricated of a material inappropriate for the application.

SWIMMING POOL PLASTER EVALUATION

A homeowner observed stains on the bottom of his swimming pool several weeks after the pool had been replastered. A sample of stained plaster was removed to inspect the cross section of the plaster thickness. The inspection revealed that the staining originated at the interface between the original pool surface and the new plaster.

HVAC FIRE AND UNIT INSPECTION

A fire took place in a rooftop HVAC unit, resulting in smoke damage throughout an office building. Investigation of the control wiring in the unit revealed that a high temperature limit switch had been removed from the control circuit, allowing the firebox to overheat.

**WELD FRACTURE CAUSES
SINGLE-VEHICLE ACCIDENT**

The driver of a Corvette lost control of her vehicle, resulting in a single vehicle accident. Inspection of the vehicle suspension system revealed fractured welds at an upper control arm mount. The welds were incomplete and of poor quality. There was no impact damage to the wheel supported by the loose control arm or in the area of the fractured welds. It was concluded that the loss of control of the vehicle was initiated by the weld fracture.