

# Did You Know...

## WORKING SAFELY WITH SHARP BLADES OR EDGES

The most common concern when using sharp blades or edges is an injury, such as a cut or an amputation.

The most reliable option to control risk is to eliminate the use of the blade. Assess if there is another way to cut the item or open the package.

### If you can't eliminate the use of a sharp blade or edge:

- Select the right tool for the task
- Use the tool only in the way it was designed for. For example, knives should not be used as a pry bar, chisel, scraper or screwdriver.
- Inspect the tool before use
- Make sure the blade is sharp. Dull blades require more force, increasing the chance of injury
- Work in a well-lit area so that you can see what you're doing
- Cut on a stable surface
- Hold the tool with your dominant hand
- Use protective clothing such as cut resistant gloves
- Cut away from the body. Make sure no body parts are in the cutting path, or in the path the blade might take if it slips.



**Nobody Gets Hurt, Today or Tomorrow**