

## **DS SMITH PAPER - SAFETY ALERT**

On 24th September 2011, John Stoddart, Operations Director at Higher Kings Mill, was investigating a quality issue on the second press top felt viewing platform. Somehow during this process he became caught in an in-running nip between the felt and felt roll. Tragically he died from his injuries.

Significantly, this particular in-running nip had not been identified as a hazard during a recent PUWER assessment (completed by external specialists).

This incident reinforces the importance of standing advice to all businesses to ensure that:-

- Risks associated with in-running nips have been identified, assessed and addressed
- Risks associated with machinery interventions have been assessed and controlled
- Guarding design takes into account human error and all areas of potential access

**Chris Rosser**