



# SAFETY STORY, WATCH YOUR FINGERS!!

## Sea Safe is a program is For Industry, By Industry

There's nothing more important about your work than going home safely when you're done! And there's no one better to help you stay safe than others who have experienced the same things that you might have. By reading this story, you'll learn about ways of doing things that will help you get home safely. This is the real experience of people just like you – passionate members of our seafood community who care about each other's safety. Follow their learning so you don't find yourself learning the hard way!

## WHAT HAPPENED?

I work as a deckhand where we cast the line, harvest, clean and store the fish we catch. However, one day I was assigned as a puller. As we pulled the line upwards, I got surprised by an incoming fish and wrapped my finger around the line. The line became tighter and locked around my finger. I quickly shouted at the crew for help and luckily, we were able to unwrap my finger in time.

Fishing line might seem like a safe and simple bit of kit when fishing, but don't underestimate it's strength under load!

When working with fishing line, it is important not to wrap it around your fingers as this can lead to cuts, the loss of circulation, or potentially the loss of your finger!

It can always be handy to have safety knives around the vessel to avoid any accidents occurring if something gets tangled up in your line that should be!

***Turn the page for learnings and tips***



**SEASAFE**  
FOR INDUSTRY. BY INDUSTRY.



**PEER TO PEER**  
**FOR INDUSTRY BY**  
**INDUSTRY, LEARNING**  
**TOGETHER, GRASS**  
**ROOTS, VALUES DRIVEN**

## **TIPS AND TOOLS**

It is important to be proactive in mitigating potential hazards on board a vessel to ensure a safe working environment. Regular risk assessments should be conducted on the vessel to identify potential risks. All crew members should be trained to recognise hazards, and understand the four steps of risk assessment:

1. Identify hazards
2. Consider the risks associated with each hazard
3. Control the risks
4. Practice, review and document

### Resources:

- [ASMA Risk Assessment Checklist](#)
- [AMSA safety courses](#)