What is the problem?
Workers operating and cleaning unguarded printing presses.

What are the risks?
Arms, wrists or fingers can be trapped in the machine, causing crushing injuries or amputation.

A printing press operator's right forearm was crushed and wrist fractured when he tried to clean a mark off the impression drum while the machine was operating.

The machine was not guarded and there were no safe operating procedures for cleaning the drum.

What is a solution to the problem?
The risk of injury can be eliminated or reduced by:

• guarding the machine to protect people from rotating parts and nip points (eg a permanently fixed physical barrier or barrier that can only be removed with tools)
• installing an interlock safety system that stops the moving parts of the printing press when access is required
• regularly inspecting and testing the safety system
• servicing the machine regularly
• placing signs on or near the machine to alert employees of the dangers of operating the machine
• providing employees with instructions and training on safe work procedures, and regularly reviewing them, including lock out and tag out systems
• when setting up or cleaning the printing press, using a single means of control that allows only limited movement (inching).