



SAFework NSW
AWARDS
2017

MAKING RECOVERY WORK

Chris May, Abergeldie Complex Infrastructure

RECOVERY AT WORK ACHIEVEMENT FOR INJURED WORKERS WINNER 2016

After sustaining a significant injury, civil works labourer Chris May made it his personal goal to get back to work as soon as possible. Whilst on the job, a saw struck Chris in the face, causing a deep laceration and resulting in major surgery. He was told that his recovery was going to be a lengthy one.

However, it was his positive attitude, together with the help of his employer and family, which allowed Chris to get through dark days and back on the job.

The day he was released from hospital, he discussed suitable duties with his health and safety manager. A recovery-at-work schedule was developed, and while the risk of infection ruled out a number of tasks, meaningful off-site duties were made available.

Chris has since returned to his normal role and has taken it upon himself to ensure no-one else suffers the same injury.

“Life doesn’t stop and wait for you to get better. Whilst working off-site wasn’t what I was used to, it gave me a goal and kept me busy, and it was actually really rewarding to be able to work across different departments. I wanted to make sure I could still contribute to work despite my injury and this award has recognised my commitment to my recovery”.

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