

SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

Task/Equipment description: HAND HELD ANGLE GRINDER



Potential hazards:

- Electrocution
 - Heat generated from cutting
 - Laceration
 - Noise
 - Sparks
 - Entanglement
 - Projectiles / eye injury
 - Exposure to hazardous dust
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Do not use this equipment unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation

Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)



Appropriate footwear



Eye protection



Well-fitting gloves



Hearing Protection



Face mask (as required)



Welding mask



Loose or long hair contained

ALWAYS

- Ensure you are fit for the task, trained and competent
 - Secure loose clothing and long hair from entanglement and remove jewellery
 - Maintain a firm grip, use an auxiliary handle (if provided) to control torque and kickback
 - Use the guard provided and ensure that it is in place and suitable
 - Ensure that the type and size of power tool is suitable for the task
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NEVER

- Expose the power tool to rain or water
 - Use the power tool if it is faulty or does not operate correctly
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This document does not replace training; it is provided as a guide to the safe use of this type of equipment. Refer to the manufacturer's manual or training documents for further information. This is a non-specific document and must be assessed against your particular brand of equipment and the working environment. Where necessary a Task Specific Risk Assessment should be undertaken.

- Lay the power tool down until it has come to complete stop
 - Cut open a container which may have contained a flammable material
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Safe Operating Procedure:

1. Pre-Operation – Safety Checks

- Secure loose clothing and long hair from entanglement and remove jewellery.
 - Ensure work area is clean and well lit.
 - Check for the presence of flammable liquids, chemicals and dust and ensure that sparks will not land on flammable materials.
 - Keep unauthorised workers away.
 - Check the electrical lead is in a safe condition and without faults.
 - Ensure the switch is in the off position before connecting to power.
 - Ensure any adjusting keys and wrenches are removed prior to operation.
 - Ensure the attachment is suitable for the power tool (ie. regarding the rated speed, size and thickness).
 - Check the power tool and abrasive wheel / accessory for signs of damage, such as cracks, chips and tears.
 - Support or clamp the item being worked on.
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2. Operation – Safety Procedure

- Maintain a firm grip, use an auxiliary handle (if provided) to control torque and kickback.
 - Avoid body contact with earthed or grounded surfaces to reduce the risk of electrocution.
 - Keep proper stable footing and do not over reach.
 - Allow the power tool to run up to operating speed prior to use.
 - Do not force the power tool.
 - Operations such as cutting off are not recommended with this type of power tool.
 - Ensure that no unintended object or body part is placed near the cutting surface.
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3. Post-Operation – Housekeeping

- Ensure that the power tool is disconnected from the power source before changing or adjusting the blade.
 - Do not lay the power tool down until it has come to complete stop.
 - Ensure the power tool is stored safely to protect it from damage.
 - Ensure that trip and slip hazards are cleaned up.
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