



## Safety Rules: Power Grinders

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1

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### Purpose

This document details the precautions to be taken and personal protective equipment to be worn while using power grinders.

### Scope

This document applies to all maintenance workers, deemed competent by their supervisor.

### Training

Workers using power grinders must be competent with the task required as well as competent with the equipment being used. The supervisor or another competent worker must train workers in the use of the equipment and in accordance with the Manufacturer's Instruction booklet.

### Procedure

1. Operators **must follow the operating procedures outlined in the Manufacturer's information booklet.** The Manufacturer's Instructions must be kept with the equipment.
2. PPE to be worn: Full-face protection shall be worn at all times whilst power grinding. The face shield shall be of the type that has a full wrap around frame that completely encircles the visor and gives protection under the chin.
3. Wherever possible the job should be arranged to avoid grinding in an awkward position. When it is absolutely necessary to grind in awkward positions where the spark stream direction cannot be controlled, safety glasses are to be worn under the face shield to minimise the risk of small particles ricocheting into the eyes.
4. Long trousers and long sleeve, secured at the wrist, or overalls must be worn while power grinding.
5. Loose clothing or long, loose hair must not be worn whilst power grinding.
6. All flammable material must be removed from the immediate area prior to commencement. This includes wood shavings and dust, paper, materials with flammable liquids on them, etc.
7. The immediate area must be kept clear of all people. Set up an exclusion zone and if necessary, have a co-worker assist with keeping people out of the area.
8. Use appropriate manual handling techniques – do not bend and twist the back, use the legs. Take regular rest breaks. Remember, vibration can also cause manual handling injuries.