



Safety Rules: Drop Saw (Metal) Operation

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1

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Purpose

This document outlines the rules for the safe operation of drop saws (metal).

Scope

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

Training

Supervisors shall arrange for ground/maintenance workers to be trained in the safe and correct operation by a person experienced in drop saw (metal) usage and with reference to the Manufacturer's Instruction booklet.

Procedure

1. Operators **must follow the operating procedures outlined in the Manufacturer's instruction booklet.** The Manufacturer's Instructions must be kept with the equipment.
2. PPE to be worn: If using a fibre disc (not metal blade) a full-face shield must be worn. Otherwise safety glasses or full-face shield is allowable. Safety boots, hearing protection.
3. All long sleeves and loose clothing to be secured before use.
4. Long hair to be secured back in ponytail or hair net.
5. As a preference, use a metal blade which will not produce sparks. If this is not possible, all flammable material to be removed from the area of use prior to commencement. This includes wood shavings and dust, paper, materials with flammable liquids on them, etc.
6. Cordon off the area of operation to prevent people walking behind the equipment (the area of sparks / wheel disintegration) during use.
7. Make visual inspection that guard is in place and secure and in good condition.
8. Make visual inspection of wheel for excessive wear, cracks, breaks and concentricity. The equipment must not be used if excessive wear is found until the wheel has been replaced. Tag the equipment "out of service".
9. Report any faults to mechanical fitters.
10. Make sure spindle is tight.
11. All work to be securely clamped in vice and supported on stands.
12. Allow wheel to reach full speed before commencing to cut.
13. Keep hands clear of cutting wheel while in operation.
14. 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.