



Safety Rules: Chainsaw Operation

a) Basic cross-cutting

b) Tree felling

Revision No:

1

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Purpose

This document outlines the rules for the safe operation of chainsaws.

Scope

This document applies to all ground/maintenance workers trained in the use of chainsaws.

Training

- (a) Basic Cross-cutting: Operators must possess a Statement of Attainment covering this operation.
- (b) Tree Felling: Operators must possess a Statement of Attainment covering this operation.

Rules

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. Operator to inspect area to be cleared, identify any potential hazards or obstacles, remove any potential projectiles (eg rocks), and if required the work area must be cordoned off and members of the public kept clear.
3. The operator must ensure there are no persons or public property that may be hit by flying debris, sticks, stones, wire etc.
4. PPE to be worn: long pants, long sleeves, Safety boots, Safety Goggles (consider whether a full-face shield is needed), Hearing, Sun protection, Hard Hat and high grip gloves.
5. The Chainsaw is to be inspected before every use and maintained to manufacturer's specification. It must also be inspected and cleaned at the end of every use.
6. A First Aid kit should be kept in close proximity of operations.
7. The Operator must ensure there are no persons or public property that may be hit by falling trees, branches or flying debris. For tree felling and pruning in areas of public access the work area must be cordoned off and members of the public kept clear. A second person is required as look out in these cases.
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.