

CIRCULAR, RADIAL AND TABLE SAWS

1. Task

The safe operation of circular, radial, and table saws.

2. Hazards

Electrical shock, cut by – struck by hazards, airborne dust, noise, ergonomic (sprain – strain injuries), tripping hazard.

3. Controls

Pre-Job Safety Assessment (PSA). CSA/ANSI approved equipment and PPE, worker training and competency, equipment and work area inspection.

- ❖ All equipment must be CSA/ANSI approved.
- ❖ Saw must be used only in accordance with manufacturer's guidelines and instructions.
- ❖ All electrical circuits must be GFCI equipped.
- ❖ All switches must be in good working order.
- ❖ Inspect the saw's cord, guard, trigger and blade before connecting to power source. If any defects are found, saw should be removed and tagged from service.
- ❖ Power source must be disconnected prior to making any adjustments to the saw or changing the blade.
- ❖ Do not wear loose clothing.
- ❖ Material being cut must be properly secured and cut on a firm surface to prevent the material from moving.
- ❖ Select the proper blade for the work that is being performed. Ensure the blade is installed properly in the right direction and secured.
- ❖ Some materials and types of wood contain hazardous ingredients. Check MSDS sheets and choose the appropriate respiratory and other PPE.
- ❖ Prepare a procedure providing for the protection of co-workers in surrounding area.
- ❖ Never force saw through material being cut.
- ❖ Inspect all material for hazards, i.e. nails, concrete etc. before cutting.
- ❖ Work area must be well lit and kept free of debris.
- ❖ Dust extraction equipment should be used when operating equipment in enclosed areas. Appoint respiratory protection and/or ventilation for dust.
- ❖ Do not overextend or operate the saw in a position where body is off balance.
- ❖ Do not carry saw with finger on trigger.
- ❖ Use "push stick", not fingers to propel material through table saws.
- ❖ Do not modify or remove machine guarding.
- ❖ Cordless saws must be double insulated.
- ❖ Protect all power cords from damage, i.e. sharp objects, high traffic areas and corrosive materials.