

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

CUT-OFF SAW

**This information does not take precedence over OH&S. All employees should be familiar with the Saskatchewan Employment Act and the OH&S Regulations.*

1. A hand operated, sliding or swing cut-off saw must be equipped with a device that will return the saw automatically to the back of the table when the saw is released at any point in the saw's travel.
2. A limit device must be installed on a swing or sliding cut-off saw to prevent the saw from travelling beyond the outside edge of the cutting table.
3. Inspect the tool for damage prior to use. Check for misalignment, binding of moving parts, improper mounting, broken parts and any other conditions that may affect its operation. Make sure cutting edges are sharp and clean, and that all guards are in place and operating properly. Ensure all adjusting keys and wrenches are removed from the tool before turning it on. Handles must be kept dry, clean and free from oil and grease. If abnormal noise or vibration occurs while operating, **turn the tool off immediately**.
4. Wear adequate clothing and PPE – do not wear loose clothing that could be caught in moving parts. Long hair must be tied back. Wear goggles or safety glasses with side shields. When working outdoors, wear rubber gloves and insulated nonskid footwear. Keep hands and gloves away from all cutting edges and moving parts.
5. Protect others in the work area from debris such as chips and sparks. Use barriers or shields as needed. Keep a fire extinguisher within 9 meters of the work process.
6. Use a clamp, vise or other practical means to hold your work securely, freeing both hands to control the tool.
7. Avoid accidental starting. Be sure the tool is turned off before plugging it in. Do not use a tool if the power switch does not turn the tool on and off. Do not carry a plugged-in tool with your fingers on the switch.
8. Prevent body contact with grounded surfaces such as pipes, radiators, ranges and refrigerators. When making blind or plunge cuts, always check the work area for hidden wires or pipes.
9. Keep proper footing and balance at all times. Maintain a firm grip. Use extra care when using the tool on ladders, roofs, scaffolds, etc.
10. Never stand on the tool. Serious injury could occur if the tool is tipped or if the cutting tool is unintentionally contacted.
11. Feed work into a blade or cutter against the direction of rotation of the blade or cutter only.
12. Never leave the tool running unattended. Turn the power off, and don't leave the tool until it comes to a complete stop.
13. Unplug the tool when not in use, before changing accessories or performing maintenance. When not in use, store the tool in a dry, secured place.