



CONCRETE GRINDING SAFE WORK PRACTICES

REVISED APRIL 7 2015

OH&S Code Part 25, Section 375

Concrete is ground to finish concrete forms, finish concrete surfaces, and remove unwanted concrete protrusions.

Concrete grinding work safe practices

All workers involved in concrete grinding must have proper respiratory equipment that meets NIOSH and/or MSHA Standards, have it fit tested, and be trained in its use and maintenance. If required to wear respirators, workers must be clean-shaven in accordance with provincial regulations.

Workers involved in concrete grinding must also wear proper eye protection, such as goggles or safety glasses, proper hearing protection, and gloves.

Workers are responsible for properly maintaining all personal protective equipment such as goggles, face shields, and respirators.

The Supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the work area is roped off and/or barricaded off before any concrete grinding is done to prevent unprotected workers from entering the work area during grinding operations.

Any worker working within the area barricaded off must wear the same respiratory equipment worn by the worker who is grinding concrete.

Concrete grinding within enclosed areas

When grinding concrete is done within an enclosed area, one of the following procedures must be executed:

Procedure "A"

When executing Procedure "A", the following safe work practices must be followed:

- The work area must be roped off and signs must be posted that warn other workers of the hazard and detail the type of personal protective equipment required to work within the area
- The worker grinding concrete must wear a half-mask type respirator to meet WHMIS requirements
- Only grinders equipped with a localized exhaust or vacuum system can be used

Procedure "B"

When executing Procedure "B" the following safe work practices must be followed:

- The work area must be roped off and signs posted prohibiting workers not involved in the grinding operation from entering the work area.
- Exhaust fans must be installed to remove dust particles from the work area and positioned in a way that ensures that the dust removed by the fans does not enter other work areas and become a hazard to other workers
- The workers grinding concrete must wear an airline or air-hose type respirator as specified by provincial regulations and the worker must ensure that the generator and/or air pump providing the fresh air source is located away from the contaminated area



- Standard type concrete grinders may be used under these conditions