



HAND HELD CIRCULAR SAW SAFE WORK PRACTICES

REVIEWED AUGUST 28 2014

OH&S Code 25, Section 377

Hand held circular saws are portable and used to cut materials in the field. Thoughtless acts or inattention cause many hand held circular saw accidents.

Hand held circular saw safe work practices

Follow these safe work practices when working with a hand held circular saw:

- Wear approved safety equipment such as safety glasses or a face shield and hearing protection
- Where harmful vapours or dusts are created by hand held circular saw, use approved breathing protection
- Use the proper sharp blade that is designed for the work to be done
- Before starting to cut, ensure all cords are clear of the cutting area
- Never cut between two sawhorses to avoid kickback. Always cut so that the piece being cut can fall away from the sawhorse.
- Use both hands to hold the saw while ripping
- When ripping, make sure the stock is held securely in place and use a wedge to keep the stock from closing and causing the saw to bind
- Disconnect the power supply before making any adjustment to the saw or changing the blade. Remove batteries in the case of cordless models.
- Make sure the retracting guard has fully returned to its down position before the saw is set down
- Carry out maintenance according to the manufacturer's instructions
- Before cutting, check the stock for foreign objects or other obstructions that could cause the saw to "kick back"