



Safe Work Instruction	Issue date: 21/04/08
Air Operated Impact Wrench	Review date: 20/02/11

Document no. SMS-06-SW-1121	Work description - Use of Air Operated Impact Wrench. Scope – Applies to all air operated impact wrenches.
Review date	References - (relevant SWMS, legislation, codes or practice, Australian Standards or manufacturer's manual) Chapter 5 of the OHS Regulation 2001 SMS-06-GD-0225 Plant. SMS-06-GD-0403 Plant Risk Assessment.

Responsible supervisor	PPE and precautions;	Competencies or qualifications;	Licences or permits required;
Line Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety Footwear (high ankle footwear or steel capped training shoes) Vibration proof gloves Hard hat Safety glasses Hearing protection – (large compressors only) everyone must wear hearing protection within 5 metres of the air compressor and or when with this tool working for an extended period of time Long sleeved shirt – Make sure you have no loose clothing that can be caught on the compressor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trained and competent in the use of the specific Air operated impact wrench. Backsafe instruction. 	N/A


Tools and equipment required – impact wrench, sockets.


IF CONTROL MEASURES ARE NOT SUITABLE AND MAJOR CHANGES ARE NEEDED, CONDUCT A RISK ASSESSMENT AND DEVELOP NEW CONTROLS ACCORDING TO [SMS-06-PR-0104 WORKPLACE RISK MANAGEMENT.](#)

		Warning Don't smoke when using impact wrench. Keep loose clothing away from impact wrench when operating.
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Site / job planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have first aid kit readily accessible. Follow all worksite procedures, e.g. Induction, Pre–Work Brief. Conduct a pre-work brief, including the following – consider the job, the environment and the weather (eg. fire risks are higher near long grass or in hot, dry or windy weather). Make sure that the compressor is within range – the air hoses must be able to reach the work areas. The air hose couplings must be clipped to ensure that the air hose will not detach while working. The air hoses must stay within your own work area and must be clear of any walkways or site traffic areas. Operator to have firm footing (i.e no obstructions, not slippery).
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Pre – start checks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operator to check that impact wrench is in good order. Operator to check compressor fuel & oil. Operator to check air hoses, connectors and air supply (compressor) are in serviceable condition. Operator to check if impact wrench works properly. Place oil in air impact wrench inlet pipe.
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Using the Air Operated Impact Wrench	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear work area of obstacles.• Make sure air hose doesn't get tangled or caught on any protruding obstacles.• Select correct socket for the job.• Ensure that socket is firmly attached to the wrench.• Place wrench onto nut squarely.• Hold wrench using correct backsafe method.• Team member to assist holding air hose.• When undoing bolts, remove or replace nuts carefully to ensure no 'stripping' of the bolt.	
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	Warning Keep firm grip on handles.
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Care and storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove socket after use, put back in socket storage unit.• Place oil (air tool) in impact wrench air inlet pipe.• Place impact wrench in carry case or storage area.
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Inspection and maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct maintenance as per the Manufacturer's Specifications.• Get an authorised dealer to do any repairs or checks/alterations to the motor settings.• Maintain inspection and test records in accordance with SMS-16-SR-0057 Inspection and Testing and SMS-05-SR-0027 Records Management.
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Additional controls
