

# Belt Sander Operations – Safe Work Procedure

**Purpose:** To provide staff, with a list of procedures to ensure they are protected against potential hazards associated with Belt Sander Operations.

**Hazards:** Work involving fine wood dust, wood chips and other combustible materials. Hazards include pinch, crush, inhalation hazard, and struck by flying debris or objects.

**WARNING: DO NOT use this machine unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation. Failure to comply could result in severe injury.**

## **General Safety**

- Never start work without proper authorization & training.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** eye protection, including protective glasses or goggles, hearing protection (when equipment is in use) and long pants. Hearing protection can include earmuffs or ear plugs based on the sound level.
- Tie back and cover hair, no loose clothing and no jewelry should be worn.
- **Do Not** wear gloves when operating a sander.

## **Before BELT SANDER OPERATIONS**

- Ensure workspaces, table, and walkways are free and clear of clutter and debris.
- Make sure guards are present, installed and working.
- Locate and be aware of the operation of the ON/OFF switch or E-stop.
- Disconnect power supply before changing or adjusting tools and equipment.
- When adjusting the belt ensure the belt sander is in the off position.
- Make sure the sanding belt tracks properly.
- Check that sander does not have a torn belt.
- Adjust all work rests on all manually fed sanders to provide minimum clearance between the belt and the rest device.

## **During BELT SANDER OPERATIONS**

- Where required ensure that work is mounted securely.
- Keep all hands, finger and other body parts away from the moving belt.
- Do not force a belt sander. Forcing the belt sander could lead to belt damage and potentially being torn.
- Do not leave machine running while unattended.
- Shut OFF the power supply to the motor and allow rotation to stop before mounting/removing accessories.

## **After BELT SANDER OPERATIONS have been completed**

- Collect all waste/debris and place in appropriate containers.
- Inspect equipment to ensure no damage has occurred, guards and other devices are in good condition and in place. Record any damage as per the Technology Education Safety Manual.
- If equipment is damaged or inoperable follow lockout procedures.