

Table Saw Operations – Safe Work Procedure

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

Hazards: Work involving fine wood dust, wood chips and other combustible materials. Hazards include pinch, crush, inhalation, 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 face shield and 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 saw.

Before TABLE SAW OPERATIONS

- Ensure workspaces, table, and walkways are free and clear of clutter and debris.
- Make sure guides are positioned properly and the table-top is smooth and polished.
- Maintain the rip fence parallel to the blade so the stock will not bind on the blade and be thrown.
- Make sure guards are present, installed and working.
- Ensure spreaders and kick-back devices are in place and operating properly.
- Only season, dry flat wood should be cut.
- 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.
- Remove all wrenches and tools used in the setup from the work area.

During TABLE SAW OPERATIONS

- Ensure that work and equipment is secure.
- Hold the stock firmly and flat on the table to prevent stock from turning and drawing your fingers into the blade.
- Use a push stick when and as required.
- Release work pieces after they have gone past the blade.
- If you need to stop cutting, hold the material firmly and shut down the saw. Wait for the blade to stop moving before removing the piece.
- 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 TABLE SAW 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.

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