BAND SAW SAFETY GUIDELINES

Circular and band saws cut a wide variety of materials such as steel and its alloys, cast iron, aluminum, plastics, brass, lead, G-10 and others.

The hazards of using circular and band saws is injury to fingers and hands. These injuries may result from:

a). Contact with moving saw blade.
b). Contact with sharp edges of cut material (burrs).
c). Pinched fingers between material and equipment.
d). By thrown pieces of metal (i.e. fragments from broken blade or material being pulled out of holding device.

Injuries to the body, head, or eyes may come from:

a). Being struck by flying metal particles.
b). Skin irritations from coolants or dust particles.

1). Wear eye protection and safety shoes at all times.

2). Do not wear neckties, wristwatches, rings jewelry, etc. when operating the machine. Long sleeve shirts will be rolled above the elbows.

3). Keep floor areas around saws free of obstructions, such as piles of stock, scraps, tote boxes, or other objects. Remove oil spots, water, or other substances likely to cause slips and falls.

4). **Do not use compressed air to blow chips from the spindle/table machine surfaces, cabinets, controls, or the floor around the machine.**

5). For normal lifting, use leg, not back, muscles. For heavy lifting, use a hoist.

7). When work platforms are used around the machine, they should be extremely sturdy, safe, and with anti-slip surfaces.

8). Keep the working surface entirely free from scrap and other tools or materials to eliminate additional hazards of material being caught and thrown by the saw.

9). Be mentally alert on the job, always sober, and never dulled by the influence of drugs, prescribed or otherwise.

10). Only qualified personnel should perform maintenance repair work.

11). Report any unsafe conditions to your supervisor.

12). Keep machine and area clean, clean after every use.

13). Before starting clear area and table of obstructions.

14). **Check for proper adjustment of blade guides, backing rollers, blade tension and height above work.**

15). **Make sure all guards are in place, making sure the upper guard is adjusted to just clear the work piece.**

16). **Use appropriate holding and/or pusher devices.**

17). When the job is completed, shut off the main power switch and clean the work area. A brush or special tool should always be used to remove chips.

18). Handle blade stock with care, when changing blades turn off main power. Discard worn blades.

19). **Replace all guards and safety devices after changing blades.**

20). **Turn off blade splicing grinder when not in use.**

21). Use appropriate PPE for the job.

22). Do not operate under restrictive medications and/or use of alcohol or drugs

Do's and Don'ts

DO get thoroughly familiar with the STOP button.

DO make sure that the work is held securely before engaging the saw blade with it.

DO make sure that all tools and machine parts are clear of the blade before starting the machine.

DO keep your hands away from the moving blade.

DO handle all blades carefully to guard against injury to yourself and others.

DON'T under any circumstances attempt to operate any machine unless you are thoroughly familiar with it.

DON'T play around with the lever of any machine.

DON'T attempt to remove chips from the machine with your bare hands or fingers. Use a brush or other suitable implement.

DON'T go away, even for a moment, and leave the machine running.

DON'T try to operate the machine and engage fellow workers in conversation at the same time. Keep your mind on your work and let the other fellow do the same.