**Safe Job Procedure for Circular Saw Use**

1. **Pre-operation check/inspection**

* Wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
* Disconnect the power cord from the electrical outlet before inspecting, adjusting, cleaning or repairing the saw or changing blades.
* Inspect the saw and power cord for damage prior to each use.
* Ensure the blade is sharp.
* Ensure the blade is the correct type for the material to be cut.
* Ensure the blade is securely mounted.
* Ensure the blade is in good condition; no nicks or cracks.
* Ensure the retracting lower blade guard is working freely.
* Check the blade for proper blade rotation.
* Check the material for any defects such as warps or knots and foreign objects such as nails, staples or screws.
* Adjust the blade depth to no more than ½ inch (1.3 cm) beyond the lower face of the material.

1. **Operation**

* Secure and adequately support the material to be cut.
* To rip material use a guide that is clamped or nailed to the material.
* Be aware of sawdust and debris from cutting the material.
* Keep all electrical cords clear of the cutting area.
* Ensure an adequate length of cord is available to fully complete the cut.
* Use both hands to operate the saw; one on the trigger handle and the other on the front knob.
* Keep your body to the left side of the blade; never in line with the saw blade just in case of a kickback.
* The weight of the saw must always be on the clamped side of the stock.
* Start the saw with the shoe in contact with the stock, but the blade clear of the stock.
* Allow the saw to attain full power before cutting.
* Always cut in a straight line.
* Allow off-cuts to fall.
* If the blade binds or when interrupting a cut, release the trigger and hold the saw motionless until the blade comes to a complete stop.
* Keep the guard free from an accumulation of sawdust and chips.
* Ensure the retracting lower blade guard is fully returned and the blade has fully stopped before setting the saw down.
* Disconnect the power cord before adjusting or changing the blade or performing regular maintenance.