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Sample General Safe Work Practice for Chop Saw

For operation of the chop saw, face shield and safety glasses must be worn.

- Loose clothing, jewelry, or any dangling objects including long hair should not be worn as they may catch in the rotating parts of the saw. Hair must be contained.
- The maximum cut for the machine must not be exceeded.
- Ensure all adjustments are secure before making a cut.
- Use clamps to secure and support the work piece to a stable platform. Do not use a length stop on the free scrap end of a clamped work piece
- Do not cut more than one work piece at a time.
- Before turning on the saw, perform a dry run of the cutting operation to ensure that no problems will occur when the cut is made.
- All guards must be in place and operating. If a guard seems slow to return to its normal position or hangs up, adjust it or repair it immediately. Unplug before adjusting or cleaning.
- Do not start the saw with the blade touching the work piece. Allow the blade to reach full speed before contacting the work piece.
- Avoid reaching over the saw line.
- Do not cross arms when cutting.
- Hands and fingers must be kept clear of the path in which the blade travels.
- When using the right hand to pull the saw down, keep the left hand, especially the thumb well clear of the line of cut.
- Clean the lower guard frequently to help visibility and movement. Unplug before adjusting and cleaning
- Use only the recommended RPM and sizes of blades.
- Regularly check and tighten the blade, be sure to lockout or unplug equipment
- When installing or changing a blade, ensure that the blade and its related washers and fasteners are correctly positioned and secured on the saws arbor.
- Long material should be supported at the same height as the saw table. 18. Use the brake if one is installed. To avoid contact with a coasting blade, do not reach into the cutting area until the blade has come to a complete stop.
- After completing a cut, release the trigger switch and allow the blade to come to a complete stop, and then raise the blade from the work piece. If the blade stays in the cutting area after the cutting is complete, injury can result from accidental contact.

Please note: This document is for information purposes only as a guide. The safe job procedures (SJP) and safe work practices (SWP) created for your workplace should reflect your organizations processes, equipment and hazards as identified by a hazard analysis. Construction Safety Nova Scotia does not assume responsibility for the use of information in this document. If assistance is needed to complete a SWP and SJP for your organization please contact CSNS member services at constructionsafetyns.ca or 1.800.971.3888.