

E Safety – Toolbox Talk

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USE OF PNEUMATIC TOOLS

What are pneumatic tools?

Pneumatic tools are powered by compressed air. Common types of these air-powered hand tools are road and concrete breakers, vibrating rammers and cleaning lances, most likely supplied by a tow able compressor.

How do you use pneumatic tools safely?

Firstly as with all plant you should inspect the compressor and check the oil and fuel levels daily and report and faults or maintenance issues to your supervisor

As with all tools and equipment you must ensure that you wear all the appropriate PPE and RPE that has been identified as required and you are provided such as goggles, gloves and dust masks.

Always use the whip-checks provided, in the event the claw detaches under pressure the whip check will prevent the hose flailing and causing injury

- ✓ Ensure that the compressed air supplied to the tool is clean and dry. Dust, moisture, and corrosive fumes can damage a tool.
- ✓ Keep tools clean and lubricated.
- ✓ Use only the attachments that the manufacturer recommends for the tools you are using, inspect the points of breakers for signs of wear and replace as required.
- ✓ Be careful to prevent hands, feet, or body from injury in case the machine slips or the tool breaks.
- ✓ Turn off the air pressure to hose when not in use or when changing power tools.
- ✓ Check hoses regularly for cuts, bulges and abrasions. Any found to be defective don't use, report defective airlines to your supervisor.
- ✓ Ensure all connections, hose to compressor; hoses to hose and hose to tool are fitted with whip-checks before use.
- ✓ Avoid creating trip hazards caused by hoses laid across walkways or curled underfoot.
- ✓ Do not use compressed air to blow debris or to clean dirt from clothes.
- ✓ Ensure that you are aware of the duration in which you can use the tool – HAVS
- ✓ Report any and all fuel leaks and spills, use spill kits to clean

- ✗ DON'T use damaged lines
- ✗ DON'T use airlines that have been used for water they can damage the tool
- ✗ DON'T carry/handle a pneumatic tool by its hose.
- ✗ DON'T use tools without whip-checks fitted.
- ✗ DON'T use blunt or damaged points on breakers
- ✗ DON'T change tools with compressed air on (crushing hoses unacceptable)
- ✗ DON'T leave compressor running unnecessarily
- ✗ DON'T leave access panels open – Noise and Nuisance issues

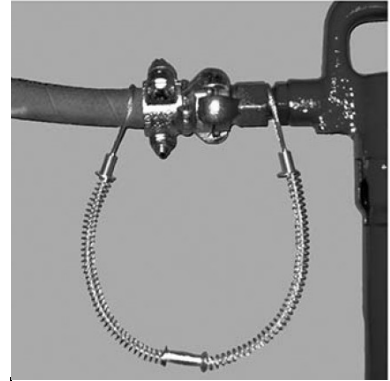


Image: Correct Use of Whip-check