

S34 – Toolbox Talk

Workshop Safety – Abrasive Wheels

The major hazards that must be considered when using abrasive wheels are:

- Wheel breakage
- Contact with revolving wheel
- Flying particles
- Dust
- Noise
- Entanglement with revolving parts
- Poor housekeeping.

The risk of breakage is inherent in every abrasive wheel, and care must be exercised in its selection, storage and use.

- Do not mount an abrasive wheel unless you have been trained to do so, and authorised in writing
- Always maintain a good standard of housekeeping. Tidy the work area before, during and after use
- Ensure pedestrians are aware that you are about to use an abrasive wheel before you 'strike up'. Otherwise, wait for them to pass. If possible, work behind a screen
- Visually inspect an abrasive wheel prior to use
- Wear eye and hearing protection at all times and, where applicable, dust masks
- Never use a damaged wheel. Report any defects to the workshop manager or site foreman
- Never use an abrasive wheel close to where batteries are being charged as sparks produced could cause an explosion
- Always remove, fix, or cover loose clothing such as ties and unbuttoned sleeves, etc.

Bench mounted wheels

- Keep the tool rest as close as possible to the wheel and ensure the glass screen is in place
- Keep your fingers below the tool rest level
- Use the correct grade of wheel for the work in hand



Portable grinding tools

- Remember, abrasive wheels mounted on portable grinding tools are equally dangerous and the same precautions must be taken
- Only reinforced discs are to be used on hand-held machines
- Check that the maximum wheel speed is greater than the maximum spindle speed before fitting
- Adjust the guard to expose the minimum wheel surface necessary for the operation.

Training register

Date

Name of attendee

Signature

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