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Chop Saw Safety	

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1. **PURPOSE**






1.1. To provide safe operational guidelines in the use of the Compound Mitre/Chop Saw

2. **SCOPE**







2.1. Safe work procedures for the Compound Mitre / chop saw should be reviewed with all employees, instructors, and students who will in the course of their work or training will operate one of these pieces of equipment.

3. **PRECAUTIONS**

POTENTIAL HEALTH & SAFETY HAZARDS

HAZARD		TO PROTECT YOURSELF
PINCH POINTS There are gears and exposed moving parts on machinery.		Use LOCK-OUT procedures when performing maintenance or conducting any work within 12" of an exposed pinch point. NEVER put your hands or feet near an exposed pinch point or gears!
ELECTRICAL HAZARD		Ensure all electrical wires, connections and plugs are in good condition.
HIGH SOUND LEVELS Sound levels exceed 85 dB		HEARING PROTECTION is required when working in designated areas.
FOOT INJURY		Approved protective footwear is needed when there is the risk of foot injury due to slipping, uneven terrain, abrasion, crushing potential, temperature extremes, corrosive substances, puncture hazards, electrical shock and any other recognizable hazard
LASER HAZARD		Wear suitable eye protection

4. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

	<p>Safety glasses must be worn at all times in work area!</p>
	<p>Work Boots must be worn at all times when working in an area where there is risk of serious foot injury due materials falling onto the foot.</p>
	<p>Work Gloves should be worn when there is a risk of hand injury during the course of work tasks.</p>
	<p>Hard hats must be worn when working in an environment where there is a risk of objects falling from above or where there is a high risk of striking your head on objects.</p>
	<p>Rings and jewelry must not be worn while operating this equipment</p>
	<p>Close fitting/ protective clothing must be worn.</p>

5. THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 5.1 TRU will ensure that each tool, machine and piece of equipment in the workplace is capable of safely performing the functions for which it is used, selected, and operated in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions, and safe work practices.
- 5.2 TRU will ensure that the installation, inspection, testing, and repair and maintenance of a tool, machine, or piece of equipment will be carried out in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions
- 5.3 TRU will ensure that any tool, machine, or piece of equipment determined to be unsafe for use will be identified in a manner which will ensure it is not inadvertently returned to service until it is made safe for use.

DO NOT use this machine unless an instructor has instructed you in its safe use and operation and has given permission

6. CHOP SAW SAFETY PROCEDURES

6.1. PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Ensure the saw is properly secured to a worktable by bolts/clamps at approximately hip height.
2. Ensure the saw is operated on ESD protected circuit.
3. Check workspaces and walkways to ensure no slip/trip hazards are present.
4. Check that all safety guards are in position and are operational.
5. Ensure you are familiar with the operation of the ON/OFF starter.
6. Keep table and work area clear of all tools, off-cut timber and sawdust.
7. Start the dust extraction unit before using the machine.
8. Faulty equipment must not be used. Immediately report suspected equipment.

6.2. OPEARTIONAL SAFETY PROCEUDRES

Do not use this saw to cut pieces that are too small to be securely clamped

1. For operation of the chop saw, face shield and safety glasses must be worn.
2. 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.
3. The maximum cut for the machine must not be exceeded.
4. Ensure all adjustments are secure before making a cut.
5. 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
6. Do not cut more than one work piece at a time.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. Do not start the saw with the blade touching the work piece. Allow the blade to reach full speed before contacting the work piece.
10. Avoid reaching over the saw line. Do not cross arms when cutting.
11. Hands and fingers must be kept clear of the path in which the blade travels.
12. When using the right hand to pull the saw down, keep the left hand, especially the thumb well clear of the line of cut.
13. Clean the lower guar frequently to help visibility and movement. Unplug before adjusting and cleaning
14. Use only the recommended RPM and sizes of blades.

15. Regularly check and tighten the blade, be sure to lockout or unplug equipment
16. 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.
17. 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.
19. 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.

7. HOUSEKEEPING

- 7.1 Leave the machine in a safe, clean and tidy state

8. POTENTIAL HAZARDS

- Saw may grab and “kick-back” towards the operator
- Contact with rotating blade
- Flying chips and airborne dust
- Eye injuries
- Noise

9. FORBIDDEN ACTIONS

- Cutting branches, wood with embedded nails or screws
- Ripping solid timber along the grain
- Cutting dowel
- Cutting ferrous or non-ferrous materials

10. SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Revision #	Date	Change (include section #)	Issued By
1	02/26/2014	NEW	OHS Officer