

# Electrical power tools

## Introduction:

Hand held power tools are used in a variety of industries. Power tools can present a number of hazards.

## Hazards:

- Ground pin on plug is missing on a three-wired grounded power tool frame.
- Cord has defects such as being frayed at any point between the equipment and the plug end.
- Power tool housing has a defect.
- Power tool is wet, if not designed for wet use.
- Controls and other functions for the power tools do not work properly.
- Guards do not work freely, are damaged or missing.
- Presence of flammable or combustible vapors where a standard electrical motor driven power tool is to be used.
- Power tools not unplugged or batteries not removed during tool changes.
- Flying particles, dust or noise created by power tool use.
- Loose clothing or long loose hair.

## Safe procedures:

- Be familiar with the manufacturers recommended use, maintenance and storage information.
- Be sure you are trained and authorized to use the power tool.

- Inspect the power tool for defects before use; if defective do not use. Tag it out of service.
- Be sure the controls and other functions are working properly before use.
- Make sure guards are present and work properly.
- Use the power tool for its intended use.
- Standard electrical motor driven powered tools should not be used where there are flammable or combustible vapors present.
- Maintain, store and transport power tools in a manner to keep them clean and free from damage from impact, moisture or other risks.
- Use eye protection, hearing protection or respiratory protection based on the hazard created by the power tool's use.
- Loose clothing should not be worn, and long hair should be secured to prevent injuries from entanglement in power tools.

## In conclusion:

Be sure you are trained and authorized before using a power tool. Be sure the tool is in proper working order before use. Follow lockout/tagout procedures during tooling changes. Wear proper personal protective equipment related to the power tools application of use.