


HAZARD / WORK ACTIVITY ASSESSED	Disc Cutters and Abrasive Wheels
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Hazard (something with the potential to cause harm)	Risk rating prior to control			Who may be harmed					Control Measures	Risk rating after control		
	Severity	Probability	Risk	Operator	Employee	Visitor	Public	Sub-cont		Severity	Probability	Risk
Abrasive wheel or disc – bursting of abrasive wheel or disc	4	1	4	x	x	x			Operator and any employees in direct work area to wear impact resistant goggles, safety helmet and dust mask. All discs to be inspected prior to fitting. Additional guarding used where risk assessment deemed to protect site.	3	1	3
Abrasive wheel and or disc – contact with	4	2	8	x					Operatives to be trained to change abrasive wheels and discs. Correct wheel type to suit work being undertaken. Abrasive wheels should be fitted with working guards	3	1	3
Flying particles – injury to eyes	4	3	12	x					Eye protection to the current standards must be worn by both operator and any assistant. If possible only operator should be within working area.	1	3	3
Clothing – entanglement with when or disc	3	2	6	x					Loose clothing or ties must not be worn by the operator.	3	1	3
Noise – exposure to excessive levels	2	2	4	x					Ear defenders to be worn at all times by operative and anyone in close proximity to work area.	1	2	2
Dust – inhalation	2	3	6	x	x				Dust masks to be used at all times by operator and anyone in the immediate workspace. Good ventilation should be in place. In poorly ventilated areas use dampening techniques.	1	3	3

SAFETY METHOD STATEMENT

1. Sufficient operatives trained to change wheels and discs available at the workplace.
2. The correct wheels for the type of machine, speed and material to be cut will be ordered supplied and used.
3. Special permit to work clearance will be obtained before using machines in potentially explosive or flammable areas.
4. An assessment of PPE requirements will be carried out before the use of the abrasive wheel is authorised. This will include hearing, eye and head and foot protection as appropriate for the work and the machine.
5. PPE must be worn as directed.
6. Loose clothing and ties must not be worn by operators.
7. Disc cutter will only be used when standing on a firm, level base.
8. Operators to ensure that all persons are kept away from areas where sparks or dust is directed.
9. Equipment and discs/wheels shall be visually checked for damage before use by the operator.
10. Users must not use undue pressure and will use the correct disc/wheel.
11. All guards must be correctly positioned and properly adjusted.
12. Cutting activities to be prohibited within confined spaces, unless adequate ventilation / dust extraction facilities are provided.
13. Details of operatives trained to the schedule of the Regulations and appointed to mount abrasive wheels will be recorded.
14. A copy of the entry shall be given to the operative, or other written authorisation.
15. Suitable storage facilities to be available at the workplace for spare discs and wheels.
16. Equipment and spare wheels are to be checked for visible signs of damage before issue.
17. Weekly inspections are required.
18. ONLY AUGER ISSUE EQUIPMENT IS PERMITTED. USE OF NON-AUGER ISSUE EQUIPMENT IS A SERIOUS BREACH OF OUR HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY.

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	Last review date	2017-06-14		
	Revision period (months)	12		

Severity	Probability	Risk Rating		
1 No Injury, property damage	1 Very Unlikely	Severity X Probability = 1 to 5	Low	Y – acceptable risk, work can start
2 Minor Injury	2 Unlikely			
3 +3 Day Absence	3 Likely	Severity X Probability = 6 to 14	Med	Y or N – may need further consideration
4 Major Injury	4 Very Likely			
5 Death	5 Virtually Certain	Severity X Probability = 15 to 25	High	N – Unacceptable risk Do not start work