

Risk Assessment

Activity: Compressors and Pneumatic Power Tools

Hazards	Harm	Risk prior to Control Measures	Persons at Risk	Required Control Measures	Records/Actions	Risk - Control Measures Applied
Entrapment on drive wheels, belts etc	Injury	S=5 L=2 R= Medium	Operative	Ensure all guards, safety devices, brakes, etc are in good condition and are operating correctly	Inspection, Maintenance Records	S=5 L=1 R= Low
Untrained user	Injury	S=4 L=3 R= High	Operative	Operatives will be trained in the safe use of pneumatic tools and the precautions necessary. Training will include the findings of COSHH and Noise Assessments and any necessary actions. Supervisors will receive the same basic training, and in safety supervision.	Training and supervision	S=4 L=1 R= Low
Noise	Hearing damage	S=4 L=3 R= High	Operative Persons adjacent	Noise assessment. Hearing protection if above 80db TWA or 137db Peak. Consider persons in vicinity	Noise assessment	S=4 L=1 R= Low
High Pressure air	Injury to eyes	S=4 L=3 R= High	Operative Persons adjacent	When using an air "lance" or similar, eye protection will be worn and a valve fitted to the lance to shut off the air supply. The work area should be cleared of other persons unless they are also adequately protected. Take care when blowing out condensation etc from hoses and ensure that the open end is secure and not pointing at anybody	Training and supervision Inspection, training and supervision	S=4 L=1 R= Low S=1 L=1 R= Low
Statutory Requirements	Failure of equipment leading to injury	S=4 L=3 R= High	Operative Persons adjacent	Ensure a schedule of examination is prepared for all compressors, fittings and plant that use air under pressure. Hoses, connections and valves will be in good condition and correctly fitted.	Planning, Records, Inspection	S=4 L=1 R= Low
Hypodermic Injuries	Air in bloodstream leading to embolism	S=4 L=3 R= High	Operative Persons adjacent	Do not use compressed air for blowing down clothing etc as compressed air can enter the body via the skin. Disconnect equipment from the compressor when changing discs, tools, etc.	Training and supervision	S=4 L=2 R= Low
Danger from attached tools	Injury	S=4 L=3 R= High	Operative Persons adjacent	Separate assessments to be made for attached tools as required	Planning and Records	S=4 L=1 R= Low