

Safe Operating Procedure

Powder Actuated Tool



PERSONAL SAFETY



PRE OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- Establish an appropriate exclusion zone;
- Ensure the actuation muzzle is serviceable and in place;
- Ensure work area is clean and free of clutter;
- Check the area behind the work surface for electrical wiring, gas and water pipes etc.;
- Ensure all connections are secure ;
- Check safety mechanisms are working;
- Check for loose bolts, screws or fittings;
- Set up / display warning signs.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

- Moving, sharp projectiles;
- Pinch & squash;
- Noise;
- Explosions;
- Eye injuries.

OPERATIONAL SAFETY PRACTICES (CONTROLS)

- The user and everyone working within the vicinity should be wearing a face shield;
- Protective footwear and hearing protection also should be worn;
- Be very aware for others that may be working nearby;
- Keep hands clear of the barrel end;
- Use an assistant posted at a safe spot to stop all persons from entering the line of fire;
- Always use the weakest charge first to test the strength of the charge needed for the job;
- Before taking a shot, call out loudly "firing";
- If tool misfires or jams do not remove from work surface for at least 10 seconds, then try again with the same charge;
- If tool fails a second time release from work surface, remove charge and dispose into a bucket of sand or water;
- When the tool fires, remove the cartridge and repeat the procedure again;
- Always use an alignment guide when shooting fasteners into existing holes;
- When using a high velocity tool, do not drive fasteners more than 75mm from an unsupported edge or corner of material such as a brick or concrete;
- When using a high velocity tool, do not place fasteners in steel any closer than 12mm from an unsupported corner edge unless a special guard, fixture or jig is used.

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DO NOT

- Attempt to operate this tool if you are an inexperienced worker, without proper training;
- Use in an explosive or flammable atmosphere;
- Point the tool, loaded or unloaded towards yourself or other persons;
- Load the tool unless it is to be used immediately;
- Leave a loaded tool unsecured or unattended;
- Fire into material that would allow the fasteners to pass through to the other side;
- Drive fasteners into very hard or brittle material that might chip or shatter or make the fasteners ricochet.

HOUSEKEEPING

- Remove the cartridge and place the unloaded tool in the explosive container and place in locked cupboard when not in use;
- Take down warning signs;
- Leave the work area in a safe, clean, & tidy condition.