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| **SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE****COMPRESSED AIR** |
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| **DO NOT use compressed air unless the Supervisor has instructed you in its safe use and operation and has given permission** |
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| Safety glasses must be worn at all times in work areas. | Hair Protection circleLong and loose hair must be contained or restrained. |
| Foot Protection circleAppropriate protective footwear with substantial uppers must be worn. | ApronClose fitting, protective clothing or a workshop apron is encouraged. |
| **Prohibition circleProhibition circle**Rings and jewellery must not be worn. | Flammable materialEnsure all flammable materials are safely stored away from the compressor unit. |

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### **PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS**

1. **Ensure no slip/trip hazards are present in workspaces and walkways.**
2. **Check the condition of all hoses and fittings. Hoses that are damaged or in poor condition should not be used.**
3. **Listen for any air leaks from any flexible airlines and immediately report if any leaks are found.**
4. **Air hoses should be kept free of grease and oil to reduce the possibility of deterioration.**
5. **Only standard air fittings should be used on air lines.**
6. **Faulty equipment must not be used. Immediately report suspect machinery.**

#### OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

**1. Never direct compressed air at any body parts when cleaning down.**

**2. Air hoses should not be placed where they will create tripping hazards.**

**3. Never direct compressed air or blow down equipment or surfaces in the direction of bystanders.**

**4. Never try to catch whipping air line (keep clear and turn off at source).**

**5. Compressed air blows swarf, dust particles and other objects into eye(s) causing injuries.**

**6. Using air to clean forces the dirt and dust particles into the air, making these contaminants airborne and creating a respiratory hazard.**

**7. Remember, compressed air, like any other tool, can be a valuable work-saving device. Use it the**

 **right way .... SAFELY!**

#### HOUSEKEEPING

**Return airline and fixtures to the correct storage location.**

**2. Leave the equipment and work area in a safe, clean and tidy state after job is completed**

## POTENTIAL HAZARDS

◼ **Unsecured hoses whipping under pressure** ◼ **High noise levels**

◼ **Eye injuries** ◼ **Flying debris**

This SOP does not necessarily cover all possible hazards associated with the tool and should be used in conjunction with other references. It is designed to be used as an adjunct to teaching Safety Procedures and to act as a reminder to users prior to tool use.

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