



## Concrete Saw Safety

Developed by:	Approved by:	Date created:	Last revision:
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Possible Hazards Present	Personal Protection Required	Additional Training	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exposed blade – cut, amputation</li> <li>- Electrical Shock</li> <li>- Noise</li> <li>- Debris in eyes</li> <li>- MSI back injury</li> <li>- Silica Exposure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hard Hat, -</li> <li>- Safety Vest,</li> <li>- Steel Toed Boots,</li> <li>- Safety Goggles</li> <li>- Face shield, Guards,</li> <li>- Respiratory Protection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fit Test</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Pre-inspection Check</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read, understand and follow procedures detailed in the operator's manual before attempting to operate this equipment.</li> <li>2. Complete a documented hazard assessment and detail your plans to eliminate or control your hazards prior to using this equipment.</li> <li>3. Check the air filter for dirt or dust.</li> <li>4. Check carburetor for external dirt and dust. Clean with dry compressed air.</li> <li>5. Check fastening nuts and bolts for tightness.</li> <li>6. Check engine oil.</li> <li>7. Remove the gas cap and visually inspect to see if the fuel levels are adequate.</li> <li>8. Check for worn or damaged blades.</li> </ol> <p><b>In general:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Saw only as deep as job conditions require. (as a general rule, cut half the depth of the concrete slab).</li> <li>2. Saw in a straight line. Mark the cutting line clearly so the operator can follow the line without difficulty without twisting the saw from side to side to force it back on line.</li> <li>3. Make sure the blade is in line with the pointer. If the pointer needs adjusting, bend the pointer so it lines up with the blade.</li> </ol> <p><b>When Starting the Saw:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attach a garden hose to a good supply of water and to the saw. Leave the WATER VALVE on the saw CLOSED. OPEN the hose bib valve.</li> <li>2. Turn lever on the water safety switch to up or on position.</li> <li>3. Make sure the blade is raised off the ground. Set the CHOKE to the CHOKE position.</li> </ol> <p>Set the throttle about half way. Pull the recoil until the engine POPS or STARTS. Put the CHOKE to the OFF position. Pull recoil till engine fires. Let engine warm up at half throttle.</p>			



4. Open water valve. When water flows through switch, the lever will automatically turn to run position (off position). Check for adequate flow before starting to cut. If water supply diminishes, the saw will stop. Then repeat steps 1-4.

While Cutting:

1. Ensure half face piece respirator has a proper seal and fits appropriately and that CSA approved goggles and face shield are in good condition and position

2. Lower the blade slowly, one notch at a time, allowing the blade to cut its own way down to desired depth. Then with a little forward pressure, allow the diamond or abrasive blade to cut as fast as possible without forcing the blade to rise out of the cut.

3. If the saw should stall for any reason, raise the blade out of the cut before starting the saw again.

WHEN LOWERING THE BLADE IN A PARTIALLY MADE CUT, USE EXTREME CARE THAT THE BLADE IS PERFECTLY ALIGNED WITH THE CUT BEFORE LOWERING THE BLADE AGAIN.

Additional Safety Warnings:

1. Conventional diamond blades MUST be used WET. They will be destroyed almost instantly if used without water or with an inadequate water supply.

2. Always keep the guards in place.

3. Keep all parts of your body away from blade and other moving parts.

4. Shut off engine and allow to cool before refueling. Keep other persons away from saw operation.

5. Use caution when loading and unloading saw.

Do not operate gasoline engines in enclosed areas unless properly ventilated.

**Documentation/Legislation**

Workplace Safety & Health Regulations  
M.R.217/2016

6. 13(10) –PPE – Eye and face protection

6.15 (1) – PPE - Respiratory protection

16 Machines, Tools and Robots

**This Safe Work Procedure will be reviewed anytime the task, equipment or materials change and at a minimum every three years.**