

SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

Task / Equipment

Description:

Nail Gun (Pneumatic – air pressure operated)

Example picture only
















Potential Hazards and Risks:

- Puncture injuries
- Impact and cutting
- Pressurised content
- Entanglement
- Pinch and squash
- Moving, sharp projectiles
- Slips / trips / falls
- Noise
- Vibration

DO NOT use this equipment unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation.

Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

	Gloves	Hearing Protection	Head Protection	Eye Protection	Eye (UV) Protection	Safety Footwear	FaceVisor / Welding	Dust Mask	Half Face Mask (P2)	Breathing Apparatus	Hi-Vis Apparel	Full Body Clothing	Harness
PPE ✓													
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Other PPE (describe):

Long and loose hair must be tied back or restrained, close fitting clothes must be worn to prevent entanglement

ALWAYS

Disconnect the nail gun from its air or electrical power source before transporting, reloading or trying to free a jammed nail.

Check that the surrounding work area is clear of obstructions, people and vehicles

Hold nail gun firmly with all fingers around the handle

Report any faults or incidents

Keep your finger off the trigger when not firing nails. The centre of gravity at the trigger makes it easy to accidentally fire the nail gun

NEVER

Never rest the nail gun against any body part, or try to climb a ladder with the nail gun cradled against your body

Never hold the nail gun by the air line

Never conduct maintenance on a connected air gun or leave a connected nail gun unattended

Never attempt to operate the nail gun if you have not had proper instruction and training in its safe operation

Never use a nail gun with a missing push lever and muzzle safety spring (or safety yoke)

Never use any part of your body to support the wood you are nailing or aim a nail gun at a person or body parts

Never use bottled gas to power air-powered nail guns.

This document does not replace training; it is provided as a guide to the safe use of this type of equipment. Refer to the manufacturer's manual or training documents for further information. This is a non-specific document and must be assessed against your particular brand of equipment and the working environment. Where necessary a Task Specific Risk Assessment should be undertaken.

Safe Operating Procedure:

1. Pre-Operation – Safety Checks
 - Establish an appropriate exclusion zone prior to nailing
 - Ensure area is clear of people, vehicles and other obstructions
 - Ensure the muzzle is serviceable and place
 - Be aware of the type of nail gun you are using and familiar with its safe use

2. Operation – Safety Procedure
 - Check that the nail roll is installed correctly into the nail holder and the roll sends the nail head along the correct channel to the firing chamber
 - Check that the air-line is connected and free of leaks
 - When holding the nail gun always hold firmly with all fingers around the handle – never hold the gun by the air line
 - Inspect the area to be nailed and ensure it is clear of foreign materials besides timber such as other nails, which can cause damage and firing nail directional change. If other nails are present be sure the grip is lined and aimed as to not hit foreign nails
 - When firing a nail always point the gun straight down and away from persons
 - The trigger and tip grip must both be used together to active discharge, which is a safety feature to prevent unintentional firing. The trigger must be pulled in whilst also a quick push/pull action into the timber with the gun to push in the tip grip. Note: Whilst this is a quick action to fire single nails, if the tip grip has constant pressure against it, nails will constantly fire causing damage
 - When refilling gun with nails, disconnect the air supply, open the nail roll holder and place new roll in, making sure nails are in correctly. Close holder and test fire. Note: The first fire after reloading may be an empty fire
 - Periodically check that all aspects of the nail gun and surrounding area are safe and working correctly
 - Always disconnect the air supply if any maintenance or inspections are required

3. Post-Operation – Housekeeping
 - Return the tool to the appropriate storage area
 - Leave the work area in a safe, clean, and tidy condition
 - Maintain correct operation of the actuation mechanism

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