

CUT-OFF SAW TOOLBOX TALK

Employees who use cut-off saws must be trained to operate the saw safely. Review the Owner's Manual for each model saw that is used. This Toolbox Safety Talk can help review important safety tips.

Work Practices

Review the Owner's Manual for each model cut-off saw you use.

Inspect each saw before use:

- Blade not cracked, chipped, or warped.
- Use the correct blade for material and conditions being cut.
- Match saw RPM with blade RPM.
- Machine guards (belt and blade guards) are secure and adjusted.
- Verify throttle and stop switch are working.
- Fuel added when saw is cold.

Prevent Kick-back:

- Always keep two hands on the saw. Never operate with one hand.
- Never cut above shoulder height.
- Do not bend over the blade when cutting.
- Support the material being cut to prevent pinching or binding of the wheel.
- Do not grind or bevel on the side of the wheel.
- Release pressure on the cut-off saw as you reach the end of the cut.
- Review owner's manual to understand directional forces on the wheel.
- Position your body to keep clear of the wheel and reactive forces.

Work Safely:

- Start saw when resting on ground. Do not "drop start" cut-off saws.
- Wet cut when feasible to reduce dust and reduce energy of reactive forces on the wheel.
- During transport, do not roll the blade wheel on the ground.
- This can damage the wheel and cause shattering during use.

Personal Protective Equipment

Safety Glasses with Side Shields Work Gloves

Hearing Protection – ear plugs or ear muffs





Tight fitting respirator with P100 filters when cutting concrete, brick, asbestos cement pipe. Use wet methods to reduce silica or asbestos dust.



Optional: 95 mask when cutting metal.



Sample safety programs for municipal and state agencies are available at www.mass.gov/dols/wshp.







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Date:	
Department:	
Instructor	
Attendees:	