

**Risk
Rating**



Risk Assessment & Method Statement

Task/ activity: Use of abrasive wheels

Task/ activity description:

Use of electric and air powered angle grinders, for maintenance activities, grinding, cutting etc.

Likely to be effected: Operators, others

Risk Scoring = multiply severity by probability SxP=R

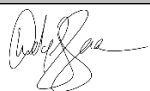
Severity	Probability	Risk Category
5 Fatality or disaster	5 Highly likely	
4 Major injury, damage or loss	4 Very likely	High = 15-25
3 Reportable injury or occurrence	3 Likely	Medium = 9-14
2 Minor injury, less than 3 days lost time or minimal loss	2 Unlikely	Low = 1-8
1 Minor injury, no lost time or damage	1 Very unlikely	

Hazard	Control measures to be taken to reduce risk	Risk scoring		Risk Rating
		S	P	
Contact with Disc- kickback -Fatality -Major injury	- Only authorised persons can work with abrasive wheels. - Never work above head height. - Hold the tool firm but not overly tight - Take care when to properly support the item to be work ensure it will not sag and jam the wheel. - Always use the handle for additional control.	5	2	10
Ejected Disc – Disc shattering. Injury to self or others -Fatality -Major injury	- Only trained, competent persons are authorised to change the disc. - Ensure the correct wheel/ disc is fitted for the material to be worked with. - Never fit an incorrect sized disc.	5	2	10

Ejected disc- improperly mounted disc. Injury to self or others -Fatality -Major injury	- Only trained, competent personnel are authorised to change discs. - Disc is to be inspected prior to use, any damage or defects must be escalated. - Discs/ wheels must be secured using the appropriate tool. - All non-essential personnel must be removed from the work area. - Guard must be properly fitted and secured.	5	2	10
Entanglement – clothing, jewellery or hair. -Fatality - injury	- No loose clothing - Hair must be tied back - Jewellery must be removed. - Never work above head height.	4	2	8
Eye Injury	- PPE use has been provided. - Eye Protection must be worn. - Eye protection is enforceable non-compliance. - Ensure non-essential personnel are removed from the work area.	3	2	6
Noise	- Noise levels are assessed and monitored at appropriate intervals. - Appropriate hearing protection is provided and must be worn. - PPE use is enforceable	3	2	6
Vibration	- Employees are instructed to take breaks from working with the tool every 15mins. - Employees are instructed of the hazard of working with vibration and the signs to identify the effect.	3	2	6
Slip / Trips / Falls – -Major injury -minor injury	- Operative must ensure work area is clean and free from slip, trip of fall hazard. - Consider your footing ensure, you are secure, with an appropriate stance and footing.	4	2	8

	• Loose material to be cleared prior to work commencing • Safety Boots with adequate ankle support must be worn and tied properly. • Site is inspected daily.			
Mechanical Failure -Fatality -Major injury	• Statutory inspections are undertaken at appropriate intervals. • Pre-use checks must be completed prior to working. • Check for damage to the casing, cabling etc. • Ensure the guard is secured and properly positioned. • Ensure the handle is secured. • Safety critical faults must be escalated immediately, and the work equipment removed and given to the site manager.	4	2	8
Critical Human Error Breach of safe system of work, leading to contact with machinery -Fatality - Major accident	• All employees must be inducted to the site and made aware of the site rules. • Employee behaviour is to be monitored to ensure compliance. • Unsafe behaviours must be challenged. • Site is supervised by a competent person during the hours of operations. • All employees must be made aware and understand the reporting mechanisms on site.	4	2	8

Approval and review

Assessor:	Signature:	Position:	Date:
Wesley Jameson		Health & Safety Manager	Apr 2024

Approved by:	Signature:	Position:	Date:
Joseph Doherty	<i>Joseph Doherty</i>	Chief Executive Officer	Apr 2024
Reviewed on:	Apr 2024	New version number:	4
Date of next review:	Apr 2025, or as an when required		

PPE requirements

- Safety boots, eye protection, hearing protection, safety gloves

Training Requirements

- Abrasive wheels
- Induction

Method statement

Pre-start – set up

- Only Trained, competent personnel are authorised to change discs.
- The Angle grinder is to be pre-use checked to identify and damage or defects, check for damage to the disc and ensure the disc is suitable for the material to be worked and the grinder for which it is to be used.
- Check for damage to the casing, cabling etc. ensure the guard is secured and properly positioned.
- Ensure the handle is secured.
- Select appropriate PPE, Eye protection, Safety gloves, Steel toe cap footwear, ear protection.
- Ensure hot work permits are completed as required.
- Ensure Fire watch is in place as required by the hot works permits.
- Remember to take breaks and not work for more than 15 mins bursts without a short 1 min break to move your hands.
- Ensure no loose clothing, and hair is tied back if required.

Physical Controls

- Ensure proper means of securing the work piece, such as clamp or vice.
- Ensure you are stable and have secure footing.
- Do not apply pressure to the wheel/ disc when in use, allow the wheel to do the work.
- Never work above head height.
- Ensure work piece is supported to prevent lag of the item and to prevent kickback.
- Work area to be controlled any unnecessary persons to be removed.

- Maintain a firm grip, and utilise the handle for stability.

Management/ Supervisory

- Ensure only competent persons are authorised to work with angle grinders.
- Hot works permit if required must be completed.
- Ensure discs are stored securely and that supply of appropriate discs are maintained.
- Remove damaged or defective equipment when reported or identified.

Emergency procedures**Emergency contact details**