

# MANAGEMENT OF HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK REGULATIONS GENERAL RISK ASSESSMENT

<b>REF No:</b>	NTET RA-RSB1	<b>ACTIVITY:</b>	RACK SAW BENCH DEMONSTRATION
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## DETAILS of TASK/OPERATION BEING ASSESSED

<b>Name of Event</b>			
<b>Location</b>			
<b>Date of Assessment</b>		<b>Assessed by</b>	

## PURPOSE/METHOD OF WORK

It is essential for the Operator to understand the correct procedures and familiarise him/herself with the machine before starting work.

- 1) Obtain the material to be cut
- 2) Place material on to a suitable work surface
- 3) Ensure machine is running correctly
- 4) Start task
- 5) Carry out the task
- 6) On completion of tasks stop blade from rotating
- 7) Clean the saw with a soft hand brush

### NOTE

When possible use a mobile feeder as it reduces the risks of coming into contact with the blades.

Use fences and a push-stick in order to keep your hands away from the blades.

A push-stick should always be used when making any cut less than 300mm in length or when feeding the last 300mm of a longer cut.

The leading hand should never be closer than is necessary to the front of the saw and hands should never be in line with the saw blade.

A push-stick should always be used to remove the cut piece from between the saw blade and fence. (Only when blade is stationary)

Do not use the circular saw to cut rebates or grooves or perform tenoning jobs. Avoid making blind or interrupted cuts.

Ensure blades/cutting tips are kept sharp

Keep blade free from saw dust or other waste materials

### WARNING

Never use the saw bench with safety devices removed or out of order

Do not leave the saw bench unattended while it is running

Never remove safety guards (top or bottom) from the saw bench

## SPECIFIC LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

HASAW Act 1974  
 Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulation 1999  
 PUWE Regulation 1998  
 Manual Handling Regulation 1992  
 Safe Use of Work Equipment Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 as applied to woodworking  
 Code of Practice for Safety of Machinery  
 1999 Safety of Woodworking Machines  
 Management of Health and Safety at Work Reg. 1992 (MHSW)  
 COSHH Reg  
 Simple Guide for Provision & Use of Work Equipment 1998  
 Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER)  
 Control of Noise at Work Regulation 2005

## LEVEL OF SKILL/TRAINING REQUIRED

All persons involved in operations should receive appropriate training and information regarding the specific control measures.  
 Only operators who have been authorised as being fully trained and competent should be allowed to operate machines.  
 Training in shut down procedures  
 Manual Handling  
 Refresher training should be carried out on a regular basis.

<b>CHEMICALS/MATERIALS INVOLVED</b>	<b>RA NO.</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT DATE</b>	<b>SPECIFIC WORK EQUIPMENT PROVIDED</b>
Wood dusts – hard/soft	N/A		Soft hand brush, dust masks, goggles

<b>MAIN HAZARDS IDENTIFIED</b>	<b>WHO WILL BE AFFECTED</b>	<b>CONTROL MEASURES TO REDUCE THE RISK</b>
1. Changing of Blade	Demonstrator Crew	Compliance with acknowledged procedures
2. Vibration	Demonstrator Crew	A safe system of working should be implemented.
3. Noise	Demonstrator Crew	Ear defenders should be worn by those closest to source of noise.
4. Dust/splinters	Demonstrator Crew	Operatives to wear eye protection, facemask and overalls. A suitable restricted area for crew around the saw should be marked. Public should not be allowed in the area when the bench is in operation.
5. Cuts from handling timber	Demonstrator Crew	Wear gloves when moving and lifting timber.
6. Strains/sprains from lifting/carrying timber	Demonstrator Crew	Carry out manual handling assessment. Basic Manual Handling training for operatives. Seek assistance with heavy/awkward loads. If possible when handling awkward or heavy sections may need to break/dismantle into manageable pieces. Use mechanical aids where possible for transporting materials.
7. Slips and trips	Demonstrator Crew	Ensure good housekeeping at workplace is maintained to practical health and safety standards. Keep floor around work area free of oil, grease and wood shavings/sawdust. Ensure that materials are stored within the allocated/demarcated areas to avoid encroaching onto walkways, etc.
8. Eye injury/eye irritation	Demonstrator Crew	Wear eye protection where eye injury likely i.e. to protect against splinters and cuts. Avoid contact with lubricants.
9. Skin irritation	Demonstrator Crew	Avoid contact with lubricants. Wear gloves when handling irritants Good hygiene principles i.e. wash hands before eating, drinking and after work is completed
10. Foot injury	Demonstrator Crew	Wear safety footwear if risk of penetration/injury, incorporate mid-sole protection.
11. Fire	Demonstrator Crew	Ensure good housekeeping. NO SMOKING. Ensure that all crew are aware of the fire procedures in place. Ensure appropriate fire extinguisher available to hand when carrying out work
12. General	Demonstrator Crew	Control/restrict access to workplace
13. Contact with Blade	Demonstrator Crew	All guards and riving blade to be in place
14. Contact with open drive belt	Demonstrator Crew	Restrict access to belt area where possible. Ensure practical Health & Safety standards are maintained
15. Inclement Weather	Demonstrator Crew	Stop/limit demonstration