

Safe Work Procedure

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SAFE USE OF CHAIN SAWS

Chain Saws are used for many jobs in construction. Since this tool primarily meant for use in the logging industry. It can be an unfamiliar tool to some workers.

Workers must be trained in the safe use of a chain saw before operating a chain saw.

- This training must include a minimum of the following elements
 1. The proper personal protective equipment to be worn is set out by the manufacturer and individual provincial and federal safety legislation.
 - ✓ The following personal protective equipment (PPE) is recommended when operating a chain saw.
 - CSA approved safety glasses and a face-shield attached to the hard hat
 - CSA approved hard hat
 - CSA approved hearing protection
 - CSA approved safety work boots
 - Leather gloves or mitts with Kevlar reinforcement
 - Pants or chaps with Kevlar reinforcement
 - ✓ Fueling of the saw must be done in a ventilated area and not while the saw is running or hot
 - ✓ Store fuel in an approved safety container. Use funnel or spout for pouring.
 - ✓ The correct starting methods for a chain saw are:
 - Inspect saw before starting. Do not use saw with damaged or missing parts.
 - Ensure that guide bar is tight and chain fits snugly without binding.
 - Ensure that the chain break is functioning properly and adequately stops the chain.
 - Know how to use the controls before starting a chain saw.
 - Ensure that the chain is sharp, and has the correct tension.
 - Ensure that chain is free of obstructions before starting.
 - Hold the saw firmly on the ground. Point the chain away from your body and nearby obstructions. Use a quick, sharp motion on the starter cord.

- Do not “DROP START” (starting the saw in hands). This leaves only one hand to control a running saw and has resulted in leg cuts.
- Do not stand directly behind saw.
- Do not leave a saw running unattended.
- Do not carry a chain saw with it running.
- When carrying/transporting a chain saw the bar guard must be in place, the chain bar must be toward the back and the motor must be shut off.