

## SAWING – WALL SAWS (TRACK MOUNTED) JOB PROCEDURES

### Installation

Wall sawing equipment consists of two main components:

- (a) The track mounted on brackets (boots) that are attached to the wall, together with the saw head that is mounted on the track. Apart from the standard wall saw there are plunge saws and corner cutting saws that operate in a similar manner. Any special safety factors relating to these two types are covered below.
- (b) The hydraulic drive unit that can be electrically, gas or diesel driven.

When installing the track, care must be taken to follow the manufacturer's instructions. Small test holes should be drilled if steel reinforcing bar is present in the wall, to make sure that the bar does not lie in the plane of the cut. If this occurs, the line of cut must be moved to ensure that the blade does not cut the bar parallel.

It is essential that the surface is smooth and level; otherwise there will be distortion of the track. Particular attention must be paid to:

- (a) Ensuring that all supporting brackets are in contact with the surface without distortion and are securely anchored using anchor bolts.
- (b) Ensuring that all tracks are properly joined allowing the saw head to pass freely.
- (c) Checking that the track is at a right angle to the surface, if necessary using a level.
- (d) Inspecting the complete saw assembly including the blade flanges, arbor and saw blade for damage malfunctioning.

Once the saw head is mounted on the rail, the blade can then be fitted and the angle checked again with a level. The blade must be securely mounted on the shaft and the blade nut properly tightened. Ensure that the blade guard is fitted and locked in place before starting the motor.

**SAFETY STOPS MUST BE USED AT EACH END OF THE TRACK.** These prevent the saw running off the track. Under certain circumstances, the blade can drive itself along the track, thereby presenting a considerable safety hazard.

Kickback can occur, when the wheel climbs in the cut and throws the saw back towards the operator. To prevent this, avoid sawing with the upper segment of the blade and keep a firm grip on the machine.

Work should be properly supported so that the cut does not close, pinching the blade.

Where the tools are electrically driven, care should be taken to ensure that the cable is not cut or damaged by the saw blade. If damage does occur, the tool should be exchanged.