

Powder-Actuated Tools Policy



POWDER ACTUATED TOOLS PROGRAM

Only trained employees will be allowed to operate powder-actuated tools. An operator of a powder-actuated tool shall have an operator's card that should be in the operator's possession at all times while using the tool and be presented upon request.

The wallet size card must bear the following;

QUALIFIED OPERATOR POWDER-ACTUATED FASTENING TOOLS Date _____ Serial Number _____ This certifies that (name of operator) has received the Prescribed training in the operation of powder-actuated Fastening tools manufactured by (name) Model(s) _____ Authorized Issuer _____ Signature of Operator _____
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Operating Rules for Powder-Actuated Tools:

- Σ An operator and assistant using a powder-actuated tool shall be safeguarded by means of eye protection. Head and face protection shall be used, as required by the working conditions, and will be outlined in the R.W. LaPine, Inc. Personal Protective Equipment Program.
- Σ Before using a powder-actuated tool, the operator shall inspect it to determine to the operator's satisfaction that it is clean, that all moving parts operate freely, and that the barrel is free from obstructions. A tool found not to be in proper working order, or that develops a defect during use, shall be immediately removed from service, tagged and not used until repaired.
- Σ A powder-actuated tool shall not be loaded until just prior to the intended firing time. An unattended powder-actuated tool shall not be left loaded.
- Σ A powder-actuated tool shall not be left unattended in a place where it is available to unauthorized personnel.
- Σ Neither loaded nor an empty powder-actuated tool shall be pointed at any employee, and hands should be kept clear of the open barrel end.

OPERATING RULES:

- Σ A fastener shall not be driven;
 - Through an existing hole, unless a positive guide is used to secure accurate alignment.
 - Into material which can be easily penetrated, unless the material is backed by a substance that will prevent the fastener from passing completely through and creating a flying missile hazard on the other side.
 - Into very hard or brittle material, such as cast iron, glazed tile, surface hardened steel, glass block, live rock, face brick, or hollow tile, unless designed for such use. Before fastening any questionable material, the operator shall determine its suitability by using a fastener as a center punch. If the fastener point does not easily penetrate, is not blunted, and does not fracture the material, initial test fastening shall then be made pursuant to the tool manufacturer's recommendations. Operators if in doubt should contact their superintendent for assistance.
 - Directly into material, such as brick or concrete, closer than 3 inches from the unsupported edge or corner, or into a steel surface closer than ½ inch from the unsupported edge or corner, unless a special guard, fixture, or jig is used.
 - As an exception, a low velocity powder-actuated tool may drive no closer than 2 inches from the edge in concrete or ¼ inch in steel.
 - When fastening other material such as a 2 inch by 4 inch wood section to a concrete surface, a fastener of no greater than 7/32 inch shank diameter may be driven not closer than 2 inches from the unsupported edge or corner of the work surface.
 - A fastener shall not be driven into a spalled area caused by an unsatisfactory fastening.
- Σ A powder-actuated tool shall be used with the correct guard, shield, or attachment recommended by the manufacturer.

Tool Testing and Servicing:

- Σ A powder-actuated tool shall be tested each day before loading to see that safety devices are in proper working order.
- Σ The method of testing shall be pursuant to the manufacturer's recommended procedure.
- Σ The powder-actuated tool will be serviced and inspected at regular intervals by competent service personnel. The tool may not be altered or repaired, except by competent repair personnel.

Tool loads and studs:

- Σ Studs or other fasteners used in powder-actuated tools shall be only those specifically manufactured for use in powder-actuated tools.

Tool defects and misfires:

- Σ In case of a misfire, the operator shall hold the powder-actuated tool in the operating position for not less than 30 seconds. The operator shall then try to operate the tool a second time. The operator shall wait another 30 seconds, holding the tool in the operating position. Then the operator shall proceed to remove the explosive load in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Σ Misfired cartridges should be placed carefully in a metal container filled with water and returned to their superintendent for disposal.