



## **SAFE WORK PROCEDURE BELT and DISC SANDER**

### **LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC DANGERS**

- ✓ Belt Sanding machines are safer to use than some other machines and less likely to cause major injuries but, nevertheless, must be used carefully with safety procedures in mind.
- ✓ Hands and fingers must be kept well clear of the small gap in two locations; firstly, the gap between the table and sanding disc, and secondly, the gap between the sanding belt and fence.
- ✓ Continual or prolonged use will cause the timber to become hot. This will put burn marks on the job and cause the belt or disc to clog.

### **OTHER SAFETY ASPECTS**

- ✓ Do not use this machine unless you have been instructed in its safe use and operation.
- ✓ **Covered footwear and eye protection must be worn (Minimum is safety glasses but it is recommended to use a face shield)**
- ✓ Long or loose hair must be contained, and clothing must be close fitting.
- ✓ Ensure the work area is free of any trip hazards or obstructions before commencing operations. Keep the work area clear of such hazards while working.

### **PRE-OPERATIONAL ASPECTS**

- ✓ Please be aware that on every occasion that the machine is started, the belt must be checked for correct tracking. That is, the belt should be running centrally on the drum and not moving to one side. If the belt is not central on the drum, then the tracking control must be adjusted to centralise the belt. Please ensure that the belt is remaining in its correct position after adjustment by continued occasional checking.
- ✓ If the belt needs to be changed due to the coarseness/smoothness of the belt, (a different grit count is needed) then readjustment of the tracking is usually required.
- ✓ Do not use faulty equipment. Immediately report faults to the convenor or persons responsible and, if appropriate, tag out the belt sanding machine.

### **OPERATIONAL ASPECTS**

- ✓ Always sand timber with the material held firmly (usually) in your hands and with gentle pressure on the belt or disc. This will ensure effective control during the procedure
- ✓ When sanding, be patient to ensure the timber does not burn through excessive sanding. Short time breaks will enable the timber to cool down
- ✓ Never leave the machine running unattended.
- ✓ Stop the machine immediately if it develops a problem, particularly if it starts to make loud noises.

### **POST-OPERATIONAL ASPECTS**

- ✓ Clean work area of sawdust.

**REMEMBER: THE ONUS IS ON YOU TO WORK SAFELY**