



## SAFE WORK PROCEDURE DROP SAW AND COMPOUND SLIDING MITRE SAW

### SAW LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFIC DANGERS

- ✓ Kickback of material is a recognised hazard if the timber is not hard against the fence.
- ✓ Timber should be clamped to the fence or bed if possible, especially for short pieces of timber where holding by hand is too close to the blade
- ✓ Hands must be kept well clear of the blade.
- ✓ All materials must be free of embedded metal. It is recommended that recycled material is only used if completely screened with metal detector for embedded metal.

### SAFETY ASPECTS

- ✓ Do not use this machine unless you have been instructed in its safe use and operation.
- ✓ **Covered footwear, eye protection (Minimum is safety glasses but recommended to use a face shield) and hearing protection is recommended at ALL times by the operator** and any other person in the near vicinity of the drop saw.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ The drop saw must always be operated by only one person. This includes turning the machine on/off and making the cut. Please note that a second person may be needed to support longer pieces of timber.
- ✓ Ensure assistants or bystanders are not at any risk from the sawing operation.

### PRE-OPERATIONAL ASPECTS

- ✓ Do not use faulty equipment. Immediately report faults to the convenor or persons responsible and, if appropriate, tag out saw.
- ✓ With the power cord disconnected
  - Ensure the correct blade is attached to carry out the intended task.
  - Check blade teeth to ensure none are missing or damaged and that the blade is correctly fixed to the arbour.
- ✓ Check operation of switch (start/stop).
- ✓ Blades should be changed only by authorised persons.
- ✓ Plan sawing procedures.
- ✓ Always ensure the work is NOT in contact with the blade when starting the machine.
- ✓ Use dust extraction if fitted.

### OPERATIONAL ASPECTS

- ✓ While making a cut, always lower the blade evenly and smoothly while pushing the blade away from yourself. Never using a pulling action when making a cut.
- ✓ Always use a clamp to fasten the timber especially when cutting small pieces. Never brush away off-cuts while the machine is running. Wait until the blade comes to a complete stop before removing materials.
- ✓ Before making any adjustments, switch off the saw and wait until it stops.
- ✓ Stop the machine immediately if it develops a problem, particularly if it starts to make loud noises.

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