

Power Tool Safety

Basic Power Tool Safety

- **Know your power tool.** Operators must read and understand the owner's manual.
- **Keep your work area clean,** free of clutter and well lit.
- **Ground all tools unless double insulated.** A three-prong plug should be plugged into a three-hole electric receptacle.
- **Avoid dangerous work environments.** Do not use in damp, wet or explosive atmospheres (fumes, dust or flammable materials).
- **Be alert!**
- **Keep guards in place** and in proper working order.
- **Secure work.** Use clamps or a vise to hold workpieces.
- **Do not force tools.** Use them for the job they were designed.
- **Wear proper apparel.** Do not wear loose clothing or dangling jewelry. Pull back long hair.

"It's only 110 - it can't really hurt me."

Famous last words:



"I emptied this nail gun..."

"Let me pull this saw guard back just to finish this last cut."

Power Tools should always be

- Held by the insulated gripping surface to avoid electrical shock.
- Used with safety goggles and other safety gear: face shield, dust mask, hardhat, ear protection, gloves or safety shoes as recommended.
- Used with a three-wire extension cord, when needed.

Power Tools should never be:

- Used near live electrical wires or water pipes, especially when cutting or drilling into walls where they could be accidentally touched or penetrated.
- Used after they have tripped a safety device such as a GFCI. Take the tool to a manufacturer or authorized dealer.
- Used when you are upset or angry or in a hurry.
- Used without guards or with an extension cord longer than 100 feet.

Safety Meeting Resources

Keyword: Power Tool Safety

PureSafety Course: Hand and Power tool Safety

www.beci.org/PowerToolSafety.html

<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/handpowertools/index.html>

Research your topic and use these simple questions and steps to get your safety meeting off on the right foot!

1. Discuss why this topic is important to NDOR employees.
2. How does it affect me and my co-workers?
3. Have you noticed any defective tools in our shop?
4. Did you report it?
5. Have you had any close calls? Can you share them with us?