



PORTABLE PLANT  
+EQUIPMENT

## SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURES

# AIR COMPRESSOR

**DO NOT** use this machine unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation and have been given permission



Safety glasses must be worn at all times in work areas.



Appropriate hearing protection (*Class 5-SLC<sub>80</sub>>26 dB*) must be worn.



Appropriate protective footwear must be worn.



Wear a hard hat if required.



Rings and jewellery must not be worn.



Wear an approved dust mask (*P2 dust and fumes*).

**Use compressed air safely – horseplay with compressed air can cause injuries**

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Ensure the work area is well ventilated and not interfering with other students or activities.
2. Visually check all air hoses and electrical leads used with the compressor for damage and slip/trip hazards.
3. Ensure all guards for the compressor (e.g. belt and pulley cover) are in place and in good working order.
4. Ensure you are familiar with the operation of the ON/OFF switch.
5. Check that the regulator is set to the appropriate pressure for the activity.
6. Check the oil level of the compressor in the oil sight glass.

### OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. Ensure all attachments used with the air compressor are in good condition before using.
2. Be careful when attaching and disconnecting tools to the air hose. Hold the air hose and tool firmly during this process.
3. Check the compressor regularly, noting pressure increase and cut-out/cut-in pressure.
4. Listen for any air leaks from any flexible airlines and immediately report any leaks.
5. Adjust pressure regulator to suit work requirements – discuss with your teacher.
6. Turn off and disconnect air hoses and electrical leads after use.
7. Never leave air compressor and equipment unattended.

### HOUSEKEEPING

1. Leave the work area in a safe, clean and tidy state – remove any waste.
2. Release condensation from the drain before storing air compressor away.
3. Air hoses and electrical leads should be coiled with large loops.

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS

- |   |   |                   |
|---|---|-------------------|
| ■ Material blown under pressure         | ■ Slips, trips and falls                    | ■ Excessive noise |
| ■ Unrestrained air hose whipping around | ■ Compressed air                            |                   |
| ■ High pressure air hose couplings      | ■ Manual handling – equipment and materials |                   |

### FORBIDDEN

- Never use compressed air to clean off clothes, workbenches or floor surfaces
- Never direct compressed air at your body or another person

Date of last review: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_