

# Metal Band Saw Operations – Safe Work Procedure

**Purpose:** To provide SD 64 staff, with a list of procedures to ensure they are protected against potential hazards associated with Metal Band Saw Operations.

**Hazards:** Work that requires close proximity to a working blade that could injure fingers, hands, arms or entangle cloths or hair. Working with coolants and vapors, fine metal filings, airborne dust and potential inhalation hazards inherent to Metal Working processes. Hazards include cut, pinch, crush, and struck by flying debris or objects.

**WARNING: DO NOT use this machine unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation.**

**Failure to comply could result in severe injury.**

## **General Safety**

- Never start work without proper authorization & training.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** eye protection, including protective glasses or goggles, hearing protection (when equipment is in use) and long pants. Hearing protection can include earmuffs or ear plugs based on the sound level.
- Tie back hair, no loose clothing and no jewelry should be worn.
- Do Not wear gloves when operating a band saw.

## **Before METAL BAND SAW OPERATIONS**

- Ensure workspaces, table, and walkways are free and clear of clutter and debris.
- Make sure the blade guides are positioned 6mm / ¼” above the workpiece and the table-top is smooth and polished.
- Make sure the blade guard above the guides is present, installed and working.
- Check that the blade is in good condition and properly tensioned.
- Check coolant delivery system to allow for sufficient flow.
- Locate and be aware of the operation of the ON/OFF switch or E-stop.
- Disconnect power supply before changing or adjusting tools and equipment.

## **During METAL BAND SAW OPERATIONS**

- Keep hands and fingers out of the path of the blade and a minimum 50mm / 2” away from the working blade.
- Hold the stock firmly and flat on the table to prevent stock from turning and drawing your fingers into the blade.
- Use a push stick for any cut where your fingers would be within 30 cm (1 foot) of the blade's path.
- Release work pieces after they have gone past the blade.
- If you need to stop cutting, hold the material firmly and shut down the saw. Wait for the blade to stop moving before removing the piece.
- Do not leave machine running while unattended.
- Shut OFF the power supply to the motor before mounting/removing accessories or removing scrap pieces from work area.

## **After METAL BAND SAW OPERATIONS have been completed**

- Collect all waste/debris and place in appropriate containers.
- Inspect equipment to ensure no damage has occurred, guards and other devices are in good condition and in place. Record any damage as per the Technology Education Safety Manual.
- If equipment is damaged or inoperable follow lockout procedures.

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