

## Safe Work Instruction - Wacker Packer

**DO NOT use this plant\* unless you have been inducted in its safe use and operation by an Authorised Experienced Operator**

This SWI may not cover all possible hazards and risks and should be referred to as a control measure in the risk assessment process. Additional training may be required for high risk plant. Site and task may change required PPE.

### PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Eye protection must be worn



Protective body clothing must be worn



Hearing protection must be worn



Foot protection must be worn



High visibility clothing must be worn



Hand protection must be worn

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

- Entanglement**  
Entanglement in moving parts
- Slip, Trips, Falls**  
Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces  
Slip, trip, fall due to steep working surfaces
- Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing**  
Injury from unexpected movement of plant
- Explosion**  
Explosion of gases, vapours or liquids
- Manual Task Injury**  
Manual task injury from incorrect manual handling techniques  
Manual task injury from plant vibration
- Other**  
Injury from contact with moving parts  
Contact with hot or cold parts of plants  
Hearing damage from excessive noise  
Injury due to plant malfunction or misuse

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Complete visual plant check before operation
- ✓ Ensure you are familiar with plant operations and controls
- ✓ Ensure that guards are fitted, secured and functional in accordance with manufacturers guidelines
- ✓ If it is suspected utility lines are in the area, ensure you have the correct "Dial Before You Dig" plans are available BEFORE you start work
- ✓ Prior to use ensure work area is clear of all hazardous obstructions. Pick up any bricks, glass, rope, stones, steel, sticks, wire etc.

### OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Keep clear of moving plant parts
- ✓ Operate plant to the conditions of the work area
- ✓ Ensure no person or animal is endangered when operating plant
- ✓ Obtain assistance or use mechanical aids to lift machine into trenches, or when unloading or loading off or on to vehicles
- ✓ Grasp handles at corners of handle when operating – use "loose" grip to reduce stress and vibration on hands, wrists and arms from machine
- ✓ Always guide the rammer in such a way that the operator is not squeezed between the rammer and solid objects.
- ✓ Special care is required when working on uneven ground or when compacting course material. Make

- sure to stand firmly when operating plant under such conditions
- ✓ Always walk behind rammer, and allow machine to pull itself forward
- ✓ Always have secure footing and balance, and a firm two hand grip
- ✓ When working near the edges of breaks, pits, slopes, trenches and platforms, always operate plant in such a way that there is no danger of it tipping or falling in
- ✓ Before making adjustments bring plant to a complete standstill, wait for plant to cool and isolate
- ✓ Always refill fuel the fuel tank in a well ventilated area

### ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ Allow plant to idle for a few seconds before shutting off engine
- ✓ Allow plant to cool and disconnect the spark plug wire before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Refuel plant at least 3 metres from combustibles
- ✓ Ensure plant is in good working order and stored in the appropriate location

### DO NOT

- ✗ Do not use if plant is faulty. Attach a DO NOT OPERATE tag and report fault to your supervisor
- ✗ Do not leave plant running unattended
- ✗ Do not alter engine speed – run engine only at a speed specified by manufacturer

- ✘ Do not operate engine unless air filter is fitted and clean
- ✘ Do not stand in front of or pull plant
- ✘ Do not try to overpower the rammer – machine is designed to “walk” forward
- ✘ Do not touch the engine or muffler while the engine is on or immediately after it has been turned off. These areas get hot and may cause burns
- ✘ Do not operate plant inside a building or other closed environment that is not fully vented
- ✘ Do not operate plant on fully compacted, hard or non-yielding surface, this could redirect the plate’s vibratory forces away from the surface to the operator causing injury
- ✘ Do not refuel unless the engine is stopped and cool. Refuelling a hot engine can result in burns and explosions
- ✘ Do not wear loose jewellery
- ✘ Do not use mobile phone while operating plant

**\*Plant in this SWI refers to any machinery, equipment, appliance, container, implement and tool.**