

Safe Work Instruction - Plasma Cutter

DO NOT use this plant* or complete this task 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/work. Site and task may change required PPE.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Eye protection must be worn



Long and loose hair must be contained or covered.



Hearing protection must be worn



Foot protection and spats must be worn



Oil free leather gloves must be worn



Minimum P2 face mask or respirator must be worn when airborne dust or fumes are created



Appropriate Goggles/Mask or Appropriately rated Welding mask must be worn



Protective body clothing must be worn

POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

- ⓘ Exposure to High Pressure Fluid**
Injury from exposure to high pressure fluids
- ⓘ Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing**
Injury from contact with moving parts
Injury from sharp or flying object
- ⓘ Electrical Shock or Burn**
Electrical shock or burn from plant contact with live electrical conductors
Electrical shock or burn from damaged or poorly maintained electrical leads and cables
- ⓘ Manual Task Injury**
Manual task injury from awkward body posture
- ⓘ Slip, Trips, Falls**
Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces
Slip, trip, fall due to electrical leads obstructing walkways
- ⓘ Other**
Burn injury
Hearing damage from excessive noise
Exposure to toxic fumes
Exposure to radiation
Exposure to other emissions released by the plant

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment if used onsite
- ✓ Carry out visual inspection on plant and check before operation
- ✓ Ensure you are familiar with plant operations and controls
- ✓ Ensure material to be cut poses no hazard. Consult the manufacturers Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for specific technical data and precautionary measures concerning any materials or coating on materials cut with this equipment
- ✓ Ensure the work area is clean and clear of grease, oil and any flammable materials
- ✓ Keep the equipment, work area and gloves dry to avoid electric shocks
- ✓ Ensure the gloves, handpiece and work leads are in good condition
- ✓ Ensure other people are protected from flashes by closing curtain to welding bay or erecting screens
- ✓ Ensure fume extraction unit is on before beginning cutting operation. Ensure machine is used in a well-ventilated area if not used in a welding bay

- ✓ Operate plant to the conditions of the work area
- ✓ Check power lead is in good working order and does not create a trip hazard
- ✓ Keep leads and air hose clear of the work and protect them against damage from hot, sharp or heavy contact
- ✓ Ensure machine is correctly set up for current air flow
- ✓ Ensure work return earth cables make firm contact to provide a good electrical connection
- ✓ Ensure there are no water puddles anywhere near the work area
- ✓ Take particular care to avoid accidental UV welding flash to skin and eyes
- ✓ Ensure while plasma cutting always make efforts to insulate yourself from ground and from your workpiece
- ✓ Always turn the power "OFF" before changing tips, electrodes, electrode adapters, baffles, brass ends or heat shields

OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Keep clear of moving plant parts

ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ Ensure the welder and fume extraction are switched off
- ✓ Ensure the air regulator is off and the unit secured

- ✓ Hang up the handpiece, hoses and cables appropriately
- ✓ Allow plant to cool before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Ensure plant is in good working order and stored in the appropriate location

DO NOT

- ✗ Do not use if plant is faulty. Attach an Out of Service tag and report fault to your supervisor
- ✗ Do not leave plant running unattended
- ✗ Do not weld or cut containers that have held combustible liquids or gases
- ✗ Do not heat or cut metals coated with or containing materials that emit toxic fumes, unless coating is removed from the work surface
- ✗ Do not cut in confined spaces, or where the ventilation is considered not to be adequate
- ✗ Do not use the plasma cutter in areas where combustible or explosive gases or materials are located
- ✗ Do not adjust the clamp while you are cutting
- ✗ Do not touch any parts of the plasms cutter that are electrically connected
- ✗ Do not use oxygen, only air supplied from compressor to be used
- ✗ 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.**