

## Safe Work Instruction - Chainsaw

**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



Hearing protection must be worn



Hand protection must be worn



Foot protection must be worn



Protective body clothing must be worn (chaps & long pants)



High visibility clothing must worn



Head protection must be worn



Long and loose hair must be contained or covered.



Face protection must be worn

### POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS



#### Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing

Injury from sharp or flying object  
Injury from contact with moving parts



#### Entanglement

Entanglement in moving parts



#### Manual Task Injury

Manual task injury from repetitive movements  
Manual task injury from incorrect manual handling techniques

**Manual task injury from plant vibration**



#### Slip, Trips and Falls

Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces  
Slip, trip, fall due to steep working surfaces



#### Exposure to Dust/Fumes

Exposure to Dust



#### Other

Hearing damage from excessive noise

**Injury due to kickback from sharp rotating parts**

### PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Assess the requirement for respiratory protection.
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Check the effectiveness of chain brakes and operating controls
- ✓ Ensure chain is sharp and correctly tensioned
- ✓ Ensure plant is clean so you can see any loose, worn or defective parts and other safety hazards

### 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. Watch for ejected material.
- ✓ When starting plant on the ground:
  - Ensure no obstructions are present, particularly near the tip of the guide bar
  - Ensure the chain brake is applied
  - Place your right foot through the rear handle and place your left hand on the front handle
  - Operate the starter with the right hand

- ✓ Keep a firm grip on plant with both hands and the thumb of the hand holding the front handle wrapped around the handle
- ✓ Maintain a proper balance and secure footing
- ✓ Start the cut with the saw chain rotating at full speed and the spiked bumper in contact with the wood
- ✓ Be aware of the guide bar nose at all times when the saw chain is in motion
- ✓ Pay full attention to the operation and be alert for movement of the material being cut
- ✓ Be alert to the situations that may cause the material to pinch the top of the saw chain
- ✓ Apply chain brake when plant is at rest

### ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ Allow plant to cool before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Refuel plant at least 3 metres from combustibles
- ✓ Remove any foreign material from in and around motor and guards
- ✓ 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 use this plant unless there are at least 2 workers in attendance when operating.
- ✗ Do not leave plant running unattended
- ✗ Do not use chainsaw above shoulder height
- ✗ Do not wear loose jewellery or clothing
- ✗ Do not use mobile phone while operating plant

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