

Safe Work Instruction - Soldering Iron

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



Long and loose hair must be contained or covered.



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



Foot protection must be worn



Protective body clothing must be worn

POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

- i Electrical Shock or Burn**
Electrical shock or burn from damaged or poorly maintained electrical leads and cables
- i Other**
Exposure to toxic fumes
Burn injury
Contact with hot or cold parts of plants
- i Slip, Trips, Falls**
Slip, trip, fall due to electrical leads obstructing walkways

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 the electrical cord is in good working order and does not create a slip/trip hazard
- ✓ Confirm plant has a current electrical safety tag attached
- ✓ Ensure the workspace is well ventilated so fumes are not exposed to the operator
- ✓ Check the condition of soldering tip. Replace if damaged
- ✓ Ensure tip is 'tinned' and free from waste build up. Once the tip has warmed up, wipe on a damp sponge to clean
- ✓ Leave the soldering iron in the stand when warming up

OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Avoid positioning your head directly over the soldering process. Soldering often creates fumes that can be toxic
- ✓ Avoid prolonged use. This could overheat the tip element causing it to fail or oxidise
- ✓ Always allow plant to reach the desired temperature. This can take several minutes
- ✓ Ensure electrical cords are well clear of the soldering process. DO NOT touch electrical cords with the tip
- ✓ Wash your hands after using plant, many soft solders contain toxic lead products

ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ Allow plant to cool before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Turn off and wait until the tip element has completely cooled before storing plant away
- ✓ 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 flick the iron to remove excess solder
- ✗ Do not plug in and turn on until the tip element has been checked, or replaced and tightened
- ✗ Do not touch the soldering tip. Keep your fingers clear
- ✗ 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.