

**Standard Operating Procedure: Handheld Angle Grinder**

***1. Purpose***

Provide guidance on safe use of Handheld Angle Grinder

***2. Prerequisites***

Read associated Risk Assessment prior to using Equipment.

Schuster\_Workshop\_Disc\_Cutting & Grinding

***3. Responsibilities***

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***4. Procedure***

Refer to Hand Arm Vibration (HAVS) guidance notes from HSE and Vibration Risk Assessment prior to using equipment.

Look on the equipment to see what the vibration rating is, use this to calculate Work Exposure limits using HSE online HAVS calculator.

Only use equipment for short periods of time taking regular rests. If hands become fatigued STOP using equipment.

1. Where possible ALL grinding work is to be carried out on the down-draft table.
2. Refer to equipment manual if unsure of any details regarding the grinder.
3. Ensure the correct grinding or cutting disc for the material to be cut is securely fitted to the grinder paying particular attention to the nut orientation.
4. Ensure the disc rpm speed is rated high enough. (Equal to or higher than the grinder maximum rpm).
5. Ensure that the disc is in date. Validity date should be clearly marked on the center ring. If no date is shown then DO NOT use the disc and discard it.
6. Wear all essential PPE. Safety glasses and visor or goggles, lab coat, steel toe footwear, positive pressure respirator and ear defenders, flame retardant apron.
7. Hold grinder with both hands in a firm comfortable grip.
8. Ensure secondary handle and wheel guard are fitted correctly in a position that will not impede the grinding action.
9. Switch on and perform task paying close attention to the action of the grinding disc and direction of hot swarf.
10. Switch off on completion of task and place grinder on bench only once the wheel has stopped rotating.

***5. Definitions***

Explain any acronyms used in the SOP (Standard Operating Procedure).

HAVS - Hand arm vibration syndrome