

Workplace Safety and Health (Explosive Powered Tools) Regulations 2009

Table of Contents

Enacting Formula

Part I PRELIMINARY

1 Citation and commencement

2 Definitions

3 Application

Part II GENERAL PROVISIONS

4 General duty on employer or principal

5 Protective shield or device

6 General requirements for tools

7 Projectiles to meet requirements

8 Projectiles and charges to be compatible with tools

9 Colour to indicate strength of charge

10 Record of tools

11 Information to be engraved, embossed, printed or placed on tools

Part III OPERATION AND SAFE USE OF TOOL

12 General duty on employer or principal

13 Only operator to use tool

14 Inspection of tools

15 Repair of tools

16 Personal protective equipment

17 Defective tools, projectiles and charges not to be used

18 Projectiles, charges, etc., to be suited to tool

19 Compliance with manufacturer's instructions

20 Barrel extensions

21 Limitation on use of charges

22 Use of tools in dangerous environment

23 Use of tools on roof

24 Handling of tools

25 Discharging of tools

26 Free flying projectile prohibited

27 Firing into certain materials forbidden

28 Tools to be kept clean

29 Procedure in case of misfire

Part IV CARE AND STORAGE OF TOOLS AND EXPLOSIVE CHARGES

30 Storage of tools

31 Loading and carrying of tools

32 Storage of charges

Part V MISCELLANEOUS

33 Offence

34 Revocation

No. S 325

WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT (CHAPTER 354A)

WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH (EXPLOSIVE POWERED TOOLS) REGULATIONS 2009

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 65 of the Workplace Safety and Health Act, the Minister for Manpower hereby makes the following Regulations:

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Workplace Safety and Health (Explosive Powered Tools) Regulations 2009 and shall come into operation on 1st September 2009.

Definitions

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“authorised person” means —

- (a) a manufacturer of tools, projectiles or charges for use in a tool; or
- (b) any person authorised by the manufacturer of a tool to repair the tool;

“charge” means an explosive charge;

“defect” means any defect that may impair or affect the safe and normal operation of a tool;

“direct acting tool” means a tool in which the driving force on the projectile comes

directly from compressed gases from a charge;

“indirect acting tool” means a tool in which the driving force from a charge is transmitted indirectly onto the projectile via a piston;

“operator” means a person who uses a tool and who has successfully completed a training course acceptable to the Commissioner on the operation of that tool;

“projectile” means any stud, pin, dowel, screw, rivet, spike, nail or other object driven against, into or through any substance by means of a tool;

“recognised testing body” means a testing body acceptable to the Commissioner;

“repair” includes any act or attempt to improve, modify, alter or adjust any tool;

“tool” means any explosive powered tool from which a projectile may be driven against, into or through any substance by means of a charge, and includes every attachment or accessory used, adapted or intended to be used with the device, but does not include a firearm within the meaning of the Arms and Explosives Act (Cap. 13) or a side wall coring gun used in exploratory bore hole work;

“use”, in relation to a tool, means to load, unload or discharge the tool, or to attempt to load, unload or discharge the tool.

Application

3. These Regulations shall apply in relation to every workplace in which an explosive powered tool is used.

PART II

GENERAL PROVISIONS

General duty on employer or principal

4. It shall be the duty of —

- (a) the employer of a person who uses a tool; or
- (b) the principal under whose direction a person uses a tool,

to ensure that the requirements of regulations 5 to 9 are complied with in relation to the tool and any projectile or charge to be used in or with the tool.

Protective shield or device

5. Where a tool is a direct acting tool, it shall have a protective shield or device attached to its muzzle end in such a manner —

- (a) as to effectively arrest the escape of any stray projectile and any other object or particle liberated by the discharge of the tool; and
- (b) that the outer edge of the shield or device is not at any point closer to the centre of the muzzle end of the barrel than a distance of 50 millimetres, except where the tool is used in the circumstances described in regulation 23.

General requirements for tools

6. No tool shall be used unless —

- (a) it is of good construction, sound material and adequate strength, is free from patent defects and is in accordance with a standard or specification acceptable to the Commissioner;
- (b) a projectile cannot be discharged from it if it is dropped onto a surface from a height of 3 metres or more;
- (c) it cannot be discharged accidentally while being handled; and
- (d) where it is a direct acting tool, it can only be discharged —
 - (i) if a force of 110 newtons or more is applied by its operator to the springs of the breech and firing mechanisms; and
 - (ii) if the axis of its barrel or barrel extension does not deviate by more than 7 degrees from a right angle formed by the barrel and the surface into which a projectile is to be fired from it.

Projectiles to meet requirements

7. No projectile shall be used in a tool unless —

- (a) in the case of a smooth shanked projectile, the projectile can be bent through an angle of 40 degrees;
- (b) in the case of a knurled shanked projectile, the projectile can be bent through an angle of 30 degrees; and
- (c) the projectile, in a bend test for ductility, is able to bend about a pin with a diameter equal to the diameter of the shank of the projectile.

Projectiles and charges to be compatible with tools