

Compressed Air Use Policy

The purpose of the Compressed Air Use Policy is to protect employees from the hazards associated with the use of compressed air for cleaning purposes, and to ensure compliance with New Hampshire Department of Labor Standard 1403.10 Chip guards, and 1403.11 Compressed Air Use.

This policy does not apply to concrete form or mill scale, or to areas where compressed air is used in fixed processes, such as attached to a machine.

A. Employers Responsibilities

The employer shall equip all processes involving compressed air for cleaning use with chip guards to protect employees against flying chips or other such hazards. It is also the responsibility of the employer to ensure that compressed air used for cleaning does not exceed 30 psi. This limitation shall not apply to concrete form, mill scale, or to areas where compressed air is used in a fixed process, such as attached to a machine.

B. Employees Responsibilities

The employee shall not perform any operation or process involving compressed air for cleaning use without the use of a chip guard in place. He/She shall not remove a chip guard from machinery unless authorized to do so, and shall not use compressed air for cleaning at pressure higher than 30 psi.

C. Personal Protective Equipment

The employee is also responsible to wear the proper personal protective equipment typically required for use with compressed air. This includes safety glasses/goggles and hearing protection (muffs or plugs).

From the Town of Amherst's Policy and Procedure Manual, 2009.