

Air & Pneumatic Powered Tool Policy

The purpose of the Air and Pneumatic Powered Tool Policy is to protect employees from hazards associated with the use of air and portable pneumatic power tools and to ensure compliance with New Hampshire Department of Labor Standards 1403.06, Air Tools and 1403.42, Portable Pneumatic Powered Tools

A. Employer Responsibilities

The employer shall ensure that all pneumatic powered tools are equipped with safety guards to prevent accidental disconnection of tools from their air supply. The shall also provide eye protection for all employees engaged in the use of portable pneumatic and air tools.

B. Employee Responsibilities

The employee shall only use tools that are properly connected to their air supply and secured to the hose or whip with a mechanical conductor. Only pneumatic impact tools with safety clips or retainers shall be used. All air-powered tools will be used at manufacturer's safe operating pressure. Eye protection shall always be worn when using air powered or pneumatic tools.

C. Procedural Overview

Eye protection shall always be worn when using or setting up air-powered tools. Connectors, tools, and hoses will be check to ensure proper operating pressures. Tool shall be attached to air supply or hose using proper technique. In the event that a hose's inside diameter exceeds ½ inch, a pressure release device shall be installed at the air source or branch line.

While performing work, air supply pressure will only be as high as recommended manufacturer operating pressure. Upon completion of task, turn off air supply and release excess pressure in hose and tool before detaching tool from hose.

D. Personal Protective Equipment

Personal Protective Equipment typically required for this operation includes safety glasses or safety goggles.

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