

Portable Abrasive Wheel Machinery Policy

The purpose of the Portable Abrasive Wheel Machinery Policy is to protect employees from hazards associated with the use of portable abrasive wheel machinery, and to ensure compliance with New Hampshire Department of Labor Standard 1403.41 Portable Abrasive Wheel Machinery.

This policy is not applicable to wheels used while within the work being ground and to mounted wheels, used in portable operations, 2 inches and smaller in diameter.

A. Employers Responsibilities

The employers must provide safety guards for machines that use abrasive wheels, and eye protection to employees who operate portable abrasive wheel machinery.

B. Employee Responsibilities

The employees may only use machines with abrasive wheels that are properly guarded as specified by section C of this policy. He/She may never remove an abrasive wheel guard unless the equipment is unplugged and the removal is for maintenance reasons. All employees must always wear eye protection, provided by employer, when operating portable abrasive wheel machinery.

C. Procedural Overview

A safety guard must cover the following abrasive grinding machinery parts:

- Spindle end
- Nut projections
- Flange projections

Guards must be mounted to maintain proper alignment with the wheel. Guards used on right angle head or vertical portable grinders must have a maximum exposure angle of 180 degrees and meet the minimum requirements. Guards must be aligned so they are between the wheel and operator during use, and if pieces are accidentally broken, wheels are deflected away

D. Personal Protective Equipment

Personal Protective Equipment required for use with abrasive wheel machinery includes safety glasses/goggles, a face shield, and gloves.

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