



March 2009

EXPLOSIVE POWER TOOLS CAN KILL

In the hands of an untrained operator, Explosive Power Tools are able to inflict hideous injuries, and have also been known to cause fatalities.

Explosive power tools should only be used by persons who have qualified in their safe operation and maintenance.

Don't be fooled by **"It's piston operated, It's safe"**

The Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 Section 21(2e) states

Duties of Employers to employees; "Provide such information, instruction, training or supervision to employees as is necessary to enable those persons to perform their work in a way that is safe and without risks to health".

Further under the *O.H.&S. Regulations 2007* Explosive Powered Tools are specifically referred to under Part 3.5.1(i), and fall into the category of plant that requires the employer to identify all hazards to health and safety with the use of the plant and associated systems of work.

The CFMEU OH&S Unit gratefully acknowledges the support of Incolink.
Authorised by Bill Oliver, Secretary, Tommy Watson and John Setka, Assistant Secretaries of the CFMEU
Construction and General Division.

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SAFETY IS UNION BUSINESS



Check that all tools on site have been returned to the manufacturer or supplier for a service every 12 months. Employers must keep records to prove that they have been returned, which is also a requirement of the instructions for the safe operation stated in the majority of the manufacturer's hand books.

It is the Policy of the CFMEU that :

- Operators of E.W.P.'s are over 18 years of age
- Specific SWMS have been completed and are in place on every site where E.P.T.'s are to be used
- Operators have received proper training
- The correct PPE is supplied and is being worn
- Signs have been erected to warn other workers
- All tools have had a proper service in the last 12 months.

CFMEU policy also states that works using these tools must be trained by a Registered Training Organisation.

We do not support training by unaccredited providers for comprehensive and in-depth competency based training. The CFMEU offers training that meets National Competency Standard BCG2008A "Use Explosive Power Tools".

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