WHIRLIGIG COMPLIANCE

SOP - Self Propelled Mower

DO NOT use this plant* unless you have been inducted in its safe use and operation by an Authorised Experienced Operator

This SOP may not cover all possible hazards and risks and should be referred to as a control measure in the risk assessment process. Additional training may be required for high risk plant. Site and task may change required PPE.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Eye protection must be worn

P2 face mask must be worn when airborne dust or fumes are created

Hearing protection must be worn

Foot protection must be worn

High visibility clothing must be worn

Protective body clothing must be worn

POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

Entanglement
Entanglement in moving parts

Shearing
Body parts sheared between items of plant

Slip, Trips, Falls
Slip, trip, fall due to uneven or slippery work surfaces
Slip, trip, fall due to steep working surfaces

Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing
Injury from sharp or flying object
Injury from work pieces being ejected
Injury from unexpected movement of plant
Injury from contact with moving parts

Explosion
Explosion of gases, vapours or liquids

Manual Task Injury
Manual task injury from incorrect manual handling techniques
Manual task injury from awkward body posture

Struck by Moving Object
Struck by moving object due to unexpected movement of plant

Other
Contact with hot or cold parts of plants
Hearing damage from excessive noise
Injury due to operating of plant in unsuitable weather conditions
Injury due to plant malfunction or misuse

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS
- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment, including traffic control plan if required
- ✓ Check for tree stumps, roots and ditches
- ✓ Inspect mower for any loose bolts etc.
- ✓ Check cutter blades for serviceability & change as necessary, ensure spark plugs are disconnected before attempting to change the cutting blades
- ✓ Check the Dead Man Stop switch is working
- ✓ Mower has undergone regular servicing
- ✓ Ensure you are familiar with plant operations, controls and Operators Manual
- ✓ Ensure that guards are fitted, secured and functional in accordance with manufacturers guidelines

OPERATING PROCEDURES
- ✓ Reduce speed of mower when operating on steep slopes or sharp turns
- ✓ Set throttle, start engine by pulling the cord briskly
- ✓ Ensure mower is in gear, engine is running and blades are disengaged when moving mower from trailer
- ✓ Warm up engine before cutting grass

- ✓ Keep clear of moving plant parts
- ✓ Operate plant to the conditions of the work area, avoid mowing in wet conditions due to lack of traction
- ✓ Mow across the face of slopes, never up and down Exercise extreme caution, when changing direction on slopes
- ✓ Watch for ejected material, ensure no person or animal is endangered when operating plant Before making adjustments bring plant to a complete standstill and isolate

ENDING OPERATIONS
- ✓ Allow plant to cool before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Ensure there are no items stuck in cutter blades by visually inspecting
- ✓ Refuel plant at least 3 metres from combustibles
- ✓ Ensure plant is in good working order and stored in the appropriate location

DO NOT
- ✗ Do not use if plant is faulty. Attach a DO NOT OPERATE tag and report fault to your supervisor
- ✗ Do not operate mower on other surfaces than grass

- ✖ Do not attempt to remove any item from mower blades while it is operating
- ✖ Do not leave plant running unattended
- ✖ Do not wear loose jewellery
- ✖ Do not use mobile phone while operating plant
- ✖ Do not stand in front of plant when starting the engine or when the mower is running
- ✖ Do not over reach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times. This enables better control of mower in unexpected situations
- ✖ Do not place feet or hands on or near blades while the engine is running
- ✖ Do not touch the engine muffler during or after operation of plant. It is extremely hot and can cause severe burns

*Plant in this SOP refers to any machinery, equipment, appliance, container, implement and tool.