

SOP - Air Compressor

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



Long and loose hair must be contained or covered.



Hearing protection must be worn



Foot protection must be worn



Protective body clothing must be worn

POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND RISKS

- Entanglement**
Entanglement in moving parts
- Slip, Trips, Falls**
Slip, trip, fall due to workspace and walkways not being made clear
- Other**
Injury due to injection of air into the skin
Injury to the skin and eyes from foreign bodies becoming embedded
Injury due to unsecured hoses whipping under pressure
- Explosion**
Explosion of gases, vapours or liquids
- Cutting, Stabbing or Puncturing**
Injury from work pieces being ejected

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- ✓ Complete site specific risk assessment
- ✓ Complete visual plant check before operation
- ✓ Locate the compressor in a suitable location for safe operation
- ✓ Ensure you are familiar with plant operations and controls
- ✓ Check workspaces and walkways to ensure no slip/trip hazards are present
- ✓ Lock the wheels on the base of the compressor to prevent movement
- ✓ Check all fittings are securely connected prior to being pressurised
- ✓ Ensure all flammable materials are safely stored

OPERATING PROCEDURES

- ✓ Keep clear of moving plant parts
- ✓ Start plant noting pressure increase and cut-out/cut-in pressure
- ✓ Listen for any air leaks from any flexible airlines and immediately report if any leaks are observed
- ✓ Adjust pressure regulator to suit work requirements
- ✓ Check the compressed air at regular intervals
- ✓ Hose ends must be secured to prevent whipping in case an accidental cut or break occurs
- ✓ Keep oils and flammable materials clear of air fittings and joints

ENDING OPERATIONS

- ✓ Allow plant to cool before performing any maintenance, refuelling or cleaning
- ✓ Shut plant down and ensure pressure in system is relieved
- ✓ Ensure plant is left 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 discharge compressed air in the direction of a person or use to clean dust or dirt from a person's clothing or skin
- ✗ Do not wear loose jewellery or clothing
- ✗ Do not use mobile phone while operating plant

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