

Work equipment - Hand held machinery and tools

The document briefly describes what you as a supplier need to think about when planning and using work equipment - hand-held machinery and tools.



Organisation and planning

As an employer, you are responsible for ensuring that your staff has the skills, training and experience needed for the job. Equipment may only be used for the purposes and conditions for which it is intended.

Documentation of competence can consist of a training certificate. In cases where knowledge exists but training certificates are deficient or missing, it is possible for you as an employer to issue a special certificate.

The work must be planned to be carried out in a safe and appropriate manner. Choose equipment based on material, implementation and location.

The risk inventory and work preparation must take both own employees and third parties into account. This is in accordance with the Swedish Work Environment Authority's regulations on the use of work equipment.

When working with power cutters

- training is required according to a specific training specification which you can find on page 2.
- a safety helmet with an integrated, comprehensive face visor should be used for all power cutters with blade sizes larger than 230 mm, but are recommended for all types of power cutters.

Keep in mind:

- Risk assess and plan
- Select equipment suitable for the purpose
- The work equipment must be CE marked
- Review instructions and PSI sheets
- Use of personal protective equipment

Safe execution

As an employer, you must investigate, assess and document the risks. The risk assessment must also include exposure to vibrations, dust and load ergonomics.

The risk assessment forms the basis for the measures that needs to be taken in order for the work to be carried out safely.

Examples of this are dust suppression and additional personal protective equipment.

Examples of work equipment that entails special risks and that are also covered by general requirements regulated in the Swedish Work Environment Authority's regulations are:

- Rebar Cutters
- Drilling rigs
- Construction saws
- Circular saws
- Crushing equipment
- Power cutters
- Chainsaws
- Nail and bolt guns
- Tiger saws

As an employer, you must ensure that your employees have knowledge of the risks that the work can entail. The instructions that come with the work equipment must always be available and, if necessary, supplemented with other written or oral instructions.

Before starting work, the instructions and product safety data sheets (PSI) must also be reviewed and the work equipment together with protective devices must be checked. Defective equipment must not be used.

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Training specification power cutters

Background and requirements

There are risks associated with power cutters that can have very serious consequences. The risk of accidents can be minimized by acquiring basic knowledge of these risks and the importance of planning. This training specification is based on the Swedish Work Environment Authority's regulation "Work Equipment and Personal Protective Equipment – Safe Use," which requires that:

- Employers must ensure all employees receive the necessary instructions and information.
- When work equipment that poses particular risks of ill health or accidents is used, employers must organize the work so that only those authorized to use the equipment are permitted to do so.
- Employers who allow employees to use work equipment must maintain documentation of each individual's practical and theoretical knowledge regarding safe use.

Duration

Standard time of 4 hours with a maximum of 10 participants per instructor during the practical part. The training is divided into 2 hours of theory and 2 hours of practice.

Target group

For those involved in supervising or performing work with power cutters.

Prior knowledge

No previous knowledge required.

Criteria for approved course

Theory: Active participation, along with an individual knowledge test of 12 questions with at least 80% answered correctly.

Practice: Active participation, as well as assessment of the participant's practical competence and safe use.

Theory (approx. 2 hours)

Regulations

The Swedish Work Environment Authority's Constitution (AFS)

Risks

Investigate
Risk assessment
Eye/face injuries
Fire
Kickback
Vibrations
Chemical workplace hazards
Ergonomics
Risks for third parties

Material knowledge

Power cutter characteristics in different materials

Cutting discs

- Different types
- Selection based on material
- Wear/inspection
- Storage

Planning

Work instructions
Permits
Personal protective equipment
Selection of work equipment
Alternative methods
Aids and facilities

User knowledge

Manufacturer's instructions
Product Safety Instructions (QR code)
Care and Maintenance

Operation

Refueling /Starting / Movement
Hazards
Safe execution

Practice (approx. 2 hours)

In addition to mandatory PPE, the following protective equipment adapted for power cutter work must be used:

- Safety helmet with an integrated, full-face visor or equivalent.
- Respiratory protection, or alternatively, water may be used for dust suppression and cooling.
- Hearing protection.

Each participant must perform at least two cuts in workpieces with distinctly different material properties and design. All participants must actively take part in the follow-up of the completed risk assessment by reviewing the practical tasks.

