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0414 Safety Guidance
110/230V v:112016

Nibblers

The rules and procedures in force where people are at work may require the person responsible for this equipment to carry out a specific risk assessment.

It is important to read all of this leaflet BEFORE using the Nibblers

1. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
2. Electricity is dangerous and must always be used with great care.
3. This nibbler is designed for freehand cutting of sheets or metal or hard plastic.
4. The action of this nibbler can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
5. If you have not used a nibbler before, familiarise yourself with the machine on some straightforward work before you start on the main task.
6. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: goggles: EN166 or BS2092; ear muffs or plugs giving protection for levels up to 89 dB(A); gloves; rcd if using a 230 volt (mains) supply.
7. This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. This nibble is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.

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Using the Nibblers

1. Wear your protective equipment including ear defenders, goggles and gloves.
2. Before switching on, check that the punch and die are fitted correctly. Be sure to remove any spanners or tools used for adjustment.
3. Make sure the nibbler is running at full speed before starting to cut.
4. When working, always use two hands to grip and guide the nibbler.
5. Use cutting oil when nibbling metal to lubricate and cool the punch and die.
6. Do not block the air bents on the nibbler with your hands. You will cause the machine to overheat.
7. Watch out for signs that vibration may be affecting your hands. If your fingers start to tingle or feel numb, take a short break from using the machine. Exercise your fingers to encourage blood circulation.
8. To help prevent vibration affecting your hands, operate the machine for shorter periods. Keep your hands warm – wearing gloves may help do this.
9. Keep the cable clear of the nibbler and any sharp edges on your work.
10. If you think the cable may be cut or damage in any way, switch off and unplug at the mains before inspecting it. If the cable attached to the nibbler is damaged, stop using the machine. Contact the hire company. If an extension cable has been damaged, do not use it again.
11. Take care not to accidentally pull the plug from the socket.
12. Switch off and remove the plug from the socket before leaving the nibbler unattended.
13. If your equipment does not work properly do not attempt to repair it. Contac the hire company.

Please store this leaflet safely. It may be required for further information

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Before Starting Work...

WORK AREA

1. Do not use this nibbler where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
2. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to you or could distract you.
3. Protect other people from the noise and danger. Warn others to keep away.
4. Do not use this nibbler in the rain or where it might get wet.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use this machine. Particular jobs or environment may require a higher level of protection.
2. You must wear goggles (EN166 or BS2092) when you are working with this machine.
3. This equipment is likely to cause noise levels up to 89 dB(A) – wear appropriate ear muffs or plugs giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.
4. You should wear gloves for protection from sharp metal edges and from vibration from the nibbler.
5. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

NIBBLER

1. Wet cement mix is a substance that can cause contact dermatitis.
2. Contact dermatitis is a rash that may occur when the skin reacts to certain substances. The rash can vary but it is usually itchy and causes flaky skin. The rash occurs only where the substance was in contact with the skin.
3. Wash cement mixes off your skin immediately. Thoroughly rinse out your eyes and seek medical advice if you get any type of cement mix in them.
4. Mild dermatitis will heal providing there is not further contact. If the rash persists, seek medical advice.

PUNCH AND DIE

1. Switch the nibbler off, and unplug it before making any adjustments.
2. The nibbler uses a punch and die to cut materials. Make sure that they are not badly worn and that they are not adjusted correctly.
3. Using a cutting oil when cutting metal will prolong the life of the punch and die. It will also make the job easier.
4. Only use the correct punches and dies as recommended by the hire company for the material you are going to cut.
5. Remove any spanners or tools used for adjustment before switching on.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Your machine will only operate on one voltage: it will be 110v or 230v. 110v machines will have a yellow industrial plug fitted. 230v machines will have either a normal square pin plug fitted, or a blue industrial plug. Read the instructions below for your machine.

110 VOLT MACHINES (YELLOW PLUG)

1. If you are using a portable transformer, plug the transformer directly into the 230 volt socket. Do not use any 230v extension cables.
2. If you need to use an extension cable, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company have not given any special instructions, you should only use a suitably rated heavy duty 110v extension cable, not longer than 50 metres (160 feet). You must only use an extension cable between the transformer and the machine.
3. Lay the extension cable out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might be trapped, and places where vehicles might run over it. Unroll it fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
4. Make sure that any extension cable connections are dry and safe.

230 VOLT MACHINES (SQUARE PIN OR BLUE PLUG)

1. Use a residual current device (rcd) plugged directly into the 230volt socket. Plug your machine into the rcd. This will help to protect you against electric shock if the cable or machine get damaged.
2. Use the "TEST" button to check that the rcd is working each time you use it. Reset the rcd according to the instructions supplied with it.
3. If you need an extension cable, follow any special instructions given by the hire company. If the hire company have not given any special instructions, you should only use a suitably rated heavy duty one, not longer than 50 metres (160 feet). Plug it directly into the rcd.
4. Lay it out carefully avoiding liquids, sharp edges, doorways or windows where it might be trapped, and places where vehicles might run over it. Unroll it fully or it will overheat and could catch fire.
5. Make sure that any extension cable connections are dry and safe.

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