



UNC
ENVIRONMENT,
HEALTH & SAFETY

Job Safety Analysis

Safety Information for The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Facilities Services

Straight-Cut Table Saw Operation

Title	Task	Hazards	Controls
Machine Operating Procedures (1 – 10)	1. Power to the saw must be off until all of the blade, fence, and feeder adjustments have been completed and the saw is ready to be operated.	Electric shock. Lacerations.	Turn off power to machine.
	2. Position the feeder out of the way for blade and fence adjustments.	Injury from blade while not in operation. Muscle strain.	Don't lift the fence assembly during adjustment. Keep fingers out of moving parts during adjustment.
	3. Verify the blade to fence distance with a tape.	Cutting hands on the blade.	Keep the hand holding the tape case away from the blade.
	4. Adjust the height and angle of the blade.	Projectiles from blade contacting the table while saw is running.	Verify blade clearance prior to starting the saw.
		Back strain while turning the adjustment wheels.	Squat down (do not bend at the waist) to adjust the blade height while you are at eye level with the table.
		Cutting fingers or hand while saw is in operation.	Properly adjust the blade height (recommended 1/8" above the stock).

Machine Operating Procedures Cont'd...	5. Return the feed to its position above the blade and adjust the height.	Injury from the blade.	Don't move the feeder with your hands under it.
		Muscle strain.	Don't reach too far over the table to move the feeder.
	6. Turn on the blower.	None foreseen.	N/A
	7. Start the saw.	Projectiles from the rotating blade.	Visually verify there no wood or other debris around the blade or in the path of the stock.
	8. Start the cut.	Projectiles from the rotating blade.	Visually verify there is no wood or other debris around the blade or path of the stock. Check the stock for cracks. Check the stock for nails or other fasteners and remove any that are present.
		Stock kick-back.	Verify the fence is parallel to the blade. Verify the feeder is locked in position with enough downward force to stop a kickback. Step back from the saw and watch the cut. Don't watch the blade from the side of the saw.
		Eye injury.	Wear safety glasses/goggles.
		Hearing damage.	Wear earplugs or ear muffs.
	9. Finish the cut.	Kickback from both sides of the blade.	Move to the back of the saw and slide the scrap away from the blade. Remove the finished piece after the blade has stopped
	10. Turn off the saw, the feeder, and the blower.	None foreseen.	N/A

Training	Required Training: None	Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) 1. Eye protection. 2. Hearing protection.	
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Referenced Material			
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