TOOL BOX TALKS

No. 24 Portable Circular Saws

Prepare: Location? Distractions? Talk aids?

Reason: Several hundred accidents using woodworking machines are reported every year to the HSE – 40% of these involve the use of circular saws.

Why: Ignorance and misuse of circular saws can lead to you becoming seriously injured.

Outline: This talk will cover: Before use and using portable circular saws safely.

Before Using Portable Circular Saws

1. Ensure power supply is off and check for any damage.
2. Check that on-off switch works properly.
3. Ensure plug is securely fitted to cable.
4. Check full operation of swivel guard.

Q: Before checking the saw, what must you make sure?

5. Adjust for correct depth of cut and angle adjustment.
6. Adjust the rip fence as necessary.
7. Check locking nuts and securing devices.
8. Make sure the switch is not able to be locked on.

Q: What adjustments would you carry out before using?

Using Portable Circular Saws

1. Use 110 volt supply to reduce risk of lethal electric shock.
2. Use of residual current device gives additional protection.
3. Tools should be earthed or double insulated.
4. When making adjustments, remove plug from socket.
5. Tools must be checked regularly by a competent electrician.

Q: What electrical considerations are there when using portable circular saws?