

Boston University Environmental Health & Safety



## **Electric Air Compressor Awareness Reminder**

## **Potential Hazards**

► An electric air compressor can be hazardous when improperly used. Incidents could include electric shock, fire, or personal injury.

## Solutions

- ▶ The following general precautions should be observed by electric air compressor users:
  - Wear proper protective clothing and equipment.
  - Do not operate with protective covers or guards removed.
  - Do not operate with any electrical panels or covers opened.
  - Do not operate this unit with any of the safety controls bypassed.
  - Do not operate this unit with any components rated less than the maximum operating pressure of the unit.
  - Do not direct air stream at people, animals, or any living thing. Use only OHSA approved air blow guns.
  - Do not use compressed air from this equipment for breathing.
  - Unplug or disconnect unit before cleaning or servicing.
  - Do not operate unit with damaged or worn hoses, fittings, clamps, or spuds.
  - Do not repair damaged hoses or fittings.
  - Do not touch exposed metal such as the compressor pump, motor, tank, connection hoses, or any fluids.
  - Do not operate near flammable or combustible materials.
  - Do not remove any airline or receiver connections before relieving air pressure in the entire air system and receiver tank(s).
  - Do not operate at pressures, temperatures and rotational speeds in excess of the manufacturers' recommendations.
  - Do not spray flammable or toxic liquids in confined areas. Areas must be well ventilated.
  - Use this machine only in a well ventilated area.
  - To prevent corrosion, drain receiver tank(s) after 4 hours of use or at the end of each day, whichever comes first. Have the receiver tank(s) inspected for corrosion and/or damage periodically.
  - Do not use in flammable or combustible atmosphere.
  - Keep compressor as far away from spraying area as possible. At least 25 feet minimum.
  - Do not leave loose parts, rags, tools, and other foreign matter on the compressor, drive system, or fan blade.
  - Always wear hearing protection when operating or working near the unit.
  - Do not route hose in a manner that will cause sharp bending, kinking, cutting, abrasion, or exterior damage.
  - Do not pull on the hose to move the unit, untangle knots, or any other excessive pulling stress.
  - Always release the system pressure prior to service, storage, daily shutdown, and/or disconnecting the hose or from the unit.
  - Never leave an operating machine unattended.
  - Never allow children or any unauthorized persons to operate the machine.
  - Never exceed the pressure rating of air tools, spray guns, air operated accessories, tires and other inflatables could cause them to explode or fly apart.
  - Do not touch the exhaust system, cylinder head or crankcase when hot. (If gasoline engine equipped)
  - Do not inhale engine exhaust gases. (If gasoline engine equipped)
  - Always shut down the unit and refuel away from open fi res or sparks. (If gasoline engine equipped)
  - Do not over fill the fuel tank(s). (If gasoline engine equipped)
  - Disconnect the spark plug lead before cleaning or servicing. (If gasoline engine equipped)

<u>Proper Training on Safety Awarness for each piece of equipment should be documented in the Training Log</u>

Environmental Health & Safety Charles River Campus: 353-4094 Medical Campus: 638-8830 Web: http://www.bu.edu/EHS

## **Electric Air Compressor Awareness Training Record**

Student Name	BUID	Trainer Signature	<u>Date</u>
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