



**Risk Assessment - Use of Angle Grinders**

Reference No: GLO-44490-34  
 Version No: 2  
 Assessment Approver: Martin Sedgwick

Department: Global  
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 Lead Assessor: Chris Helm  
 Team: Jim Hitchen & Kevin Jarvis

**Use of Angle Grinders**

Type	Hazard Cause	Persons Affected	Control Measures	L S T Overall	Additional Control Measures	L S T Overall	Owner/Action
Health and Safety	Injury to user or those within work area Cuts, impact or fire caused by misuse	Volunteers & Staff	1) Engineering: Barrier off work area or restrict access so that projected materials cannot impact others or equipment etc. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Engineering: Guards should be fitted, secured and in place to reduce emissions - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Engineering: Discs should only be used if still within safe working date - Effective 4) CRITICAL - Engineering: Discs should be inspected to check for cracks or other malformations before use - Effective 5) CRITICAL - Engineering: Discs should be dry and not exposed to any damp conditions - Effective 6) CRITICAL - Engineering: Tool should have a current PATS certificate - Effective 7) CRITICAL - Engineering: The workpiece must be securely fixed or clamped before work starts - Effective 8) CRITICAL - Engineering: Position workpiece, tool and user so that any particle emissions are projected away from the user - Effective 9) CRITICAL - Engineering: Tool must be unplugged from power source before changing a disc - Effective 10) CRITICAL - Engineering: Any dropped discs must be disposed of due to risk of undetectable damage - Effective 11) CRITICAL - Administrative: Users should be trained and competent to use grinders - Effective 12) CRITICAL - Administrative: Users should be trained, competent and certified to change cutting discs and abrasive wheels. - Effective 13) CRITICAL - Administrative: Ensure no flammables are within the work area - Effective 14) CRITICAL - PPE: Overalls, gloves, safety footwear, eye protection and ear defenders should be worn - Effective 15) CRITICAL - PPE: Fire extinguishers should be available - Effective 16) CRITICAL - PPE: Loose fitting sleeves must not be worn - Effective	2 x 3 = 6 Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	1) Engineering: Consider using dust or fume extraction systems - Effective 2) PPE: Consider wearing a safety apron to reduce impact of sparks - Effective 3) PPE: Consider wearing flameproof overalls - Effective	2 x 3 = 6 Medium - Risk to be minimised and controlled so far as is reasonably practical.	n/a

**Score and Control Measure Notes.**

Risk is low if trained competent users follow the control measures.  
 Risk remains medium if extra control measures are followed

**COSHH Assessments**

There are no COSHH assessments associated with this risk assessment.  
 Ends



## Appendix



**Reference: UI-45735-806**  
angle grinder image - stock internet image of an angle grinder