

Technologies (Woodworking Bench Circular Saw) – Risk Assessment Template No. 57 (List additional hazards, risks and controls particular to your school using Template No.74)

Hazards	Is the hazard present? Y/N	What is the risk?	Risk rating H = High M = Medium L = Low	Control measures	Is this control in place? Y/N	If no, what actions are required to implement the control?	Person responsible	Date action completed
Contact with moving parts Note: This machine is classed as a "high risk woodworking machine" under health and safety Regulations [Ref.S.I. No.36 of 2016]		Entanglement and lacerations or amputation of fingers.	H	Extension tables are used when cutting large sheet materials Rip fence is in place which is adjustable parallel to the saw blade Bottom guard fixed (removable only with the use of a tool) Crown guard extends from the top of the riving knife to a point above and as close as practicable to the work piece The crown guard extends down each side of the saw blade and the adjustment ensures that the roots of the teeth are covered at all times Push sticks are used Before use a visual check is carried out to ensure, where applicable, all guards and covers are fitted, in good order, and there are no visible faults Machine used in compliance with manufacturer's instructions and operator's manual is available Dangling jewellery is prohibited. No gloves, rings or loose clothing are worn Long hair is tied back				
Contact with power transmission parts		Laceration and amputation of fingers	H	Power transmission is appropriately guarded The guard is removable only with the use of a tool or alternatively is fitted with an interlocking guard mechanism				
Contact by persons other than the operator with moving machinery		Entanglement, laceration, Amputation of body parts	H	Safe operational areas are marked out clearly around machines				

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Contact with blade during start/stop or emergency		Cuts/ lacerations Amputations Entanglement	H	The stop control is more prominent than the start control to facilitate ease and speed of access when it is necessary to turn off the machine				
			H	The machine is fitted with an emergency stop control (usually red domed mushroom type head on yellow housing) in an appropriate location, which is easily accessible in an emergency The emergency stop works				
			H	The flap type ^[17] emergency stop control (flap-stop is a normal start and stop contact, which is equipped with a yellow flap and red mushroom-type push buttons, covering both the start and stop contacts) is not acceptable where there is a need for an emergency stop				
			H	In the event of power supply interruption, automatic restart is prevented after restoration of the power supply				
			H	Ensure that the run-down time of the machine is not in excess of 10 seconds				

← ^[17]Flap Type Emergency Stop Control



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Kickback		Ejected material leading to injury	H	Riving knife is securely fixed and adjusted so that the gap does not exceed 8 mm from the blade at bench level; distance must be between 3-8 mm Equipment is used in line with manufacturer's instructions				
		Injury sustained from kickback such as fractures, bruising and laceration	H	Saw blade is sharp and in good condition to prevent kick-back.				
Exposure to hazardous substances when cleaning blades (depends on cleaning process)		Severe cuts, eye and respiratory injury	H	Cleaning of blades is carried out using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and following best practice guidelines provided by manufacturer. Use non-hazardous cleaning substances				
Electric shock, electrocution, burns, death		Electric shock/ fire/burns	H	A visual check is carried out before use				
			H	Machines are serviced by a competent person and service records kept as part of the maintenance schedule				
			H	Defective electrical equipment is clearly identified, labelled as out of use and stored separately to prevent accidental use. All faults are recorded in log book Previous faults have received attention Defects are reported to person in control of workplace to ensure all items are repaired or replaced				
			H	The operation of the RCD is checked by pressing the test button regularly and the RCD is tested periodically by a competent person to ensure that it operates at correct leakage current (leakage current not exceeding 30 mA in a time of not more than 0.3 seconds) (Applicable to plug and socket arrangements)				
			H	Cables are free from damage, do not have any non-standard joints or show any signs of overheating				

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Accidental start- up			H	Equipment is disconnected or locked out when not in use				
Unsupervised use of Woodworking Bench Circular Saw machines		Unsupervised use leading to injury	H	Use of this machine is restricted to authorised teachers				
			H	Machinery to be used by teachers only is clearly identified				
Unsecured machine / unsecured work piece		Movement of machine or unsecured work piece leading to injury during use	H	Machine securely fixed to the floor or bench and appropriate clamps/jigs in place to ensure that work pieces are secured, where applicable				
Noise		Hearing damage	H	Noise measurements are carried out where necessary by a competent person Warning signs are in place beside noisy equipment and are visible Hearing protection is worn where necessary				
Inadequate signage		Inadequate information and warnings leading to unsafe use of machine and injury	M	Warning signs are prominently located and maintained in good condition				
Flying debris		Being struck by flying debris leading to injury	M	Safety glasses are worn				

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Dust		Dust inhalation	H	Machine is fitted to a suitable dust extraction device system when in use, e.g. local extraction unit or central extraction unit				
		Respiratory problems	H	Exposure to all wood dusts (hard and soft woods) is strictly controlled i.e. dust levels are kept well below the relevant occupational exposure limit values (OELVs) ¹⁸				
		Eye irritation	H	Respiratory protective equipment (RPE) is used during change of filter bag e.g. CE marked disposable filtering face piece respirators[FFP2] (as long as all other controls are working effectively, and they are well below the OELV)				
			H	Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is available, e.g. overalls, eye protection, etc.				
			H	Housekeeping is maintained to a high standard to ensure control of any residual dust				
Ingestion of contaminated material		Poisoning or ill health	M	Food and drink are prohibited in working area				
Contact with hazardous materials		Exposure to hazardous materials	M	Personal hygiene is promoted (washing of hands, use of barrier creams etc.)				

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 ¹⁸ See HSA Code of Practice for the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Chemical Agents) Regulations 2018

If there is one or more **High Risk (H)** actions needed, then the risk of injury could be high and immediate action should be taken. **Medium Risk (M)** actions should be dealt with as soon as possible. **Low Risk (L)** actions should be dealt with as soon as practicable.

Risk Assessment carried out by: _____

Date: / /