

TOOL BOX TALKS

Ring Testing Abrasive Wheels

Grinders are in use all over the United States, in machine shops, home garages, construction jobsites and tool cribs. Grinders present amputation hazards in the form of nip points, kick back and wheel explosion. Grinders also produce excessive noise that damages the inner ear and flying objects that can severely injure the eyes. Users of grinders must be trained to know the proper maintenance and use of grinders, and the personal protective equipment that is required when grinders are in use. Do not underestimate hazards presented by grinders. Work safely when using grinders.

ABRASIVE WHEEL HAZARDS

- Wheel can explode under intense forces of grinder RPM.
- Grinder wheel can catch loose clothing, hair and jewelry.
- Stock can kick back during grinding.
- Grinder wheel & work rest presents an in-running nip point.

GRINDER SAFETY RULES

- Work rest must be adjusted to 1/8 inch gap.
- Tongue guard must be adjusted to 1/4 inch gap.
- These adjustments must be made fairly often, as the grinder wheel diameter is reduced during grinding operations.
- Guard the grinder motor shaft ends, called the spindle guard.
- Tie up loose clothing, hair and don't wear jewelry.
- Wear the correct personal protective equipment as recommended by the manufacturer like eye protection and face shield.
- Eye protection and hearing protection is recommended.
- Do not leave the grinder until it has "coasted" to a stop.
- Do not grind stock to stop the grinder after it has been switched off.

ABRASIVE WHEEL RING TEST

- Wheels should be tapped gently with a light nonmetallic implement, such as the handle of a screwdriver for light wheels, or a wooden mallet for heavier wheels.
- If they sound cracked (dead), they shall not be used.

EXAMPLE OF RING TESTING AN ABRASIVE WHEEL



VERIFY GRINDER SPEED IS BELOW THE RATED RPM ON THE ABRASIVE



