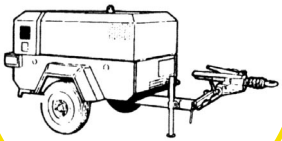
Portable Compressors

All types of portable compressors and their hoses



THESE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE READ BY THE USER BEFORE OPERATING THE COMPRESSOR

1. The compressor must be operated correctly according to the owner's or manufacturer's operating instructions, which are available on request if required.
2. **CHECK** the tyres, brakes and all lights before starting to tow the compressor.
3. **CHECK** that hoses and tools are properly stowed before travelling.
4. Position the compressor on firm level ground, apply the brakes and level the unit (within 15 degrees). Secure if necessary to prevent accidental movement.
5. **CHECK** that all air pressure is released from the compressor and that the air discharge cocks are shut before starting the compressor.
6. **CHECK** that hoses are not damaged. A hose failure can cause injuries.
7. **CHECK** that all guards are secure. **NEVER** operate the machine with missing or defective guards.
8. Before starting, make sure you know how to stop the compressor in an emergency.
9. Only use compressed air for cleaning down equipment with extreme caution. Take care not to blow dirt at yourself, other persons or into machinery. Use eye protection and ear defenders.
10. **DO NOT** use compressed air to clean yourself and **DO NOT** direct it at another person.
11. Shut off the air cock at the compressor and release air pressure before disconnecting a hose.
12. **CHECK** that all air pressure is released from the system after stopping the compressor.
13. **DO NOT** attempt repairs. Contact the Hire Company.

COMPRESSORS WITH PETROL OR DIESEL ENGINES

14 **CHECK** that doors are shut on silenced compressors during operation. On others, check whether doors should be kept open or shut.

15 If warning lights show or if gauges register outside normal limits, stop the compressor.

16 **DO NOT** make adjustments inside the canopy when the compressor is running, other than where specifically instructed.

17 **DO NOT** operate the compressor in the presence of toxic fumes.

18 **DO NOT** smoke when refuelling. **NEVER** refuel with the engine running.

19 Replace the fuel caps securely on the engine and fuel container. Wipe up any spillage immediately.

20 Fuel containers should be in good condition and leak proof.

21 **DO NOT** run the compressor in a badly ventilated area or where exhaust fumes can sink into a basement or excavation.

22 If the compressor has to be used in an enclosed area, ducting may be used to discharge exhaust fumes to a safe place.

23 **CHECK** that there is no combustible material lying on or against the exhaust system. The exhaust pipe and silencer get very hot.

24 In the event of a leak of fuel or oil developing, switch the engine off immediately.

25 **DO NOT** top up with coolant while the engine is running. Allow the radiator to cool before removing the radiator cap.

26 Air hoses must be blown out before connecting to a pneumatic tool. Hold the open end securely and open the air cock **CAREFULLY**. A blocked hose can become an air gun.

27 **CHECK** that all couplings are secure. If a coupling parts and compressed air blows free, the hose will 'whip' dangerously. **NEVER** attempt to catch and hold it down. Turn off the air to the hose immediately or stop the compressor.

28 When noise levels are uncomfortably high at 85 - 89 dB(A), it is advisable to wear hearing protectors.

29 At still higher noise levels, when it is necessary to shout to be heard, (90 dB(A) and above) the law requires that hearing protectors must be worn.

COMPRESSORS WITH ELECTRIC MOTORS

30 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The compressor will be either 110 volts or 230 volts.

31 The use of low voltage equipment at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.

32 Use a compressor with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.

33 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.

34 **When using a 230V compressor the risk of injury or death from electric shock is unacceptably high unless the following precautions are taken:**

a) Use RCD power breakers at the supply socket to give protection for both the compressor and its power cable.

b) The RCD should be protected from dust, wet weather, mechanical damage and vibration.

c) Position power cables where they are less likely to be damaged.

d) The equipment cables and RCDs should be checked every day (or every shift) using the following as a guide:

- **CHECK** that bare wires are not visible
- Make sure that cables are not damaged and free from cuts and abrasions (apart from light scuffing)
- **CHECK** that the plug is in good condition, the casing is free from cracks, the pins are not bent or the socket is not blocked with debris or dirt
- **ENSURE** that there are no taped or other non-standard joints in the cable
- **CHECK** that the cable covering has not been pulled out of the grips at the plug or equipment. (The coloured insulation of the internal wires should not be visible)
- Make sure that there are no overheating or bum marks on the plug, cable and equipment
- **CHECK** the operation of the RCD power breaker by operating the test button.

35 Compressors using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 34(d) above.

36 **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills or holes on motor housings are clear and free from dirt.

37 If the automatic cut-out operates, allow the motor to cool before re-starting.

38 **DO NOT** use electrical compressors in damp, wet or flammable conditions.

39 **DO NOT** disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.

40 Unplug from the power supply before making adjustments to the machine.

CPA. 27/28 Newbury Street, Barbican, London EC1A 7HU.
Tel: 020 7796 3366. Fax: 020 7796 3399.
Email: enquiries@cpa.uk.net
Website: www.cpa.uk.net

MAY 2004