



- 15 When starting work, if the equipment has the facility, increase the pressure SLOWLY until effective blasting is reached. Use the minimum pressure necessary to carry out the work.
- 16 **DO NOT** become distracted when carrying out sand blasting.
- 17 Be aware that the blasting medium can drift into other work areas and cause danger to others.
- 18 **CHECK** the blast medium in the machine on a regular basis.
- 19 **DO NOT** use power cables, water and air hoses other than those supplied and by the hirer.
- 20 **DO NOT** run the equipment if there is any leakage and **DO NOT** attempt to tighten a joint whilst under pressure.
- 21 **DO NOT** carry the nozzle with your finger on the operating trigger.
- 22 **CHECK** that all pressure in the lines has been dissipated before leaving the machine unattended or before disconnecting any connector in the hose.
- 23 **DO NOT** allow any waste substances, hazardous to health and/or other waste materials to run into the drainage system.
- 24 Empty the machine of abrasive if not being used for long periods of time i.e. meal breaks or shutdowns etc. This will assist in preventing unnecessary blockages due to condensation.
- 25 **DO NOT** attempt repairs. Contact the Hire Company.

#### **SAND BLASTERS POWERED BY ELECTRICITY**

- 26 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The sand blaster will be either 110 volts or 230 volts.
- 27 The use of a low voltage machine at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 28 Use a machine with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.
- 29 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.

30

When using a 230V sand blaster 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 tool 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 machine, 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)
  - **CHECK** the outer casing and covers over electrical parts for damage and **CHECK** for loose or missing parts or screws
  - Make sure that there are no overheating or burn marks on the plug, cable and equipment
  - **CHECK** the operation of the RCD power breaker by operating the test button.

31

A machine using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 30(d) above.

32

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

33

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

34

**DO NOT** carry the gun with the finger on the operating trigger.

35

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

36

Unplug from the power supply before changing nozzles.

## SAND BLASTERS POWERED BY PERTOL OR DIESEL MOTORS

- 37 Position the equipment on firm and level ground. Secure if necessary to prevent accidental movement.
- 38 **CHECK** that guards are secure. **NEVER** operate the machine with missing or defective guards.
- 39 Before starting the engine the operator should familiarise himself on how to stop it.
- 40 **DO NOT** smoke when refuelling. **NEVER** refuel with the engine running.
- 41 Replace the fuel caps securely on the engine and fuel container. Wipe up any spillage immediately.
- 42 Fuel containers should be in good condition and leak proof.
- 43 **DO NOT** use the machine in a hazardous or explosive atmosphere, or where fuel has been spilt.
- 44 **DO NOT** run the equipment in a badly ventilated area or where exhaust fumes can sink into a basement or excavation.
- 45 If the engine has to be used in an enclosed area, ducting may be used to discharge exhaust fumes to a safe place.
- 46 **CHECK** that there is no combustible material lying on or against the exhaust system. The exhaust pipe and silencer get very hot.
- 47 In the event of a leak of fuel or oil developing, switch the engine off immediately.
- 48 If warning lights show or gauges register outside normal limits, switch off the engine.
- 49 **DO NOT** top up with coolant while the engine is running. Allow the radiator to cool before removing the radiator cap and topping up.
- 50 When noise levels are uncomfortably high at 85-89dB(A), it is advisable to wear hearing protectors.
- 51 At still higher noise levels, when it is necessary to shout to be heard, (90dB(A) and above) the law requires that hearing protectors must be worn.