

HAND HELD MACHINES

- 15 **CHECK** that the pipe is firmly held or clamped to prevent rotation, whether it is part of a fixture or not.
- 16 When cutting keep both hands firmly on the machine handles. Be aware that it can kick back, which can be controlled by the support arm handle.

THE ELECTRICAL SUPPLY

- 17 **CHECK** that the voltage supply is correct. The machine will be either 110 volts or 230 volts.
- 18 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.
- 19 Use a machine with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.
- 20 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.
- 21 **When using a 230V machine 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 equipment 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)
 - **CHECK** the outer casing of the equipment for damage and **CHECK** for loose or missing parts or screws
 - 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.

- 22 A machine using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 21(d) above.
- 23 **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills or holes on motor housings are clear and free from dirt.
- 24 If the automatic cut-out operates, allow the motor to cool before re-starting.
- 25 **DO NOT** use the machine in damp, wet or flammable conditions.
- 26 **DO NOT** carry the machine with the finger on the operating trigger or button.
- 27 **DO NOT** carry the machine by its cable or disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.
- 28 Unplug from the power supply before making adjustments to the machine or changing cutters.
- 29 **DO NOT** attempt a repair to the equipment or power cable. Contact the Hire Company.



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