

- 14 **CHECK** the blade for cracks by tapping it and listening to the "ring".
- 15 **CHECK** that there are no tools on the bench or near the blade before switching on the machine.
- 16 **CHECK** for nails and other foreign bodies if sawing used timber.
- 17 **DO NOT** force the saw beyond its capacity.
- 18 **DO NOT** make any adjustments to the guards or the machine whilst the saw blade is running.
- 19 On some machines the top guard (above the blade) rides over the surface of the wood. Those that have an adjustment should be lowered to as near to the surface of the wood as possible.
- 20 **DO NOT** use the machine for cutting a rebate, tenon, or groove when a suitable guard is not supplied.
- 21 **DO NOT** smoke when using the saw bench.
- 22 Keep the area around the saw bench clear of obstructions, chips, and loose materials.
- 23 Always keep hands clear of the rotating saw blade; use a "push stick" when necessary to feed the material past the blade.
- 24 **DO NOT** leave the machine running when unattended.
- 25 **DO NOT** attempt repairs. Contact the Hire Company.

SAWS WITH ELECTRIC MOTORS

- 26 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The saw will be either 110 volts or 230 volts.
- 27 The use of a low voltage saw at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 28 Use a saw bench 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 saw 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 burn marks on the plug, cable and equipment
 - **CHECK** the operation of the RCD power breaker by operating the test button.

31

Saws 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 use electrical saw benches in damp, wet or flammable conditions.

35

DO NOT disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.

SAWS WITH DIESEL OR PETROL ENGINES

- 36 Before starting the engine the operator should familiarise himself/herself on how to stop it.
- 37 **DO NOT** smoke when refuelling. **NEVER** refuel with the engine running.
- 38 Replace the fuel caps securely on the engine and fuel container. Wipe up any spillage immediately.
- 39 Fuel containers should be in good condition and leak proof.
- 40 **DO NOT** use the saw in a hazardous or explosive atmosphere, or where fuel has been spilt.
- 41 **DO NOT** run the saw in a badly ventilated area or where exhaust fumes can sink into a basement or excavation.
- 42 If the saw has to be used in an enclosed area ducting may be used to discharge exhaust fumes to a safe place.
- 43 **CHECK** that there is no combustible material on the exhaust system. The exhaust and silencer get very hot.
- 44 In the event of a leak of fuel or oil developing, switch the engine off immediately.
- 45 If warning lights show or gauges register outside normal limits, switch off the engine.
- 46 **DO NOT** top up with coolant while the engine is running. Allow the radiator to cool before removing the radiator cap.