

MIXERS WITH ELECTRIC MOTORS

- 14 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The mixer will be either 110 volts or 230 volts.
- 15 The use of low voltage mixers at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 16 Use a machine with the lowest possible voltage to suit the job.
- 17 If you are going to use an electric mixer in rain or wet conditions it should be run at 110 volts. If it is necessary to use 230 volt equipment then check with the hire company that the terminal box is specially protected against wet.
- 18 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.
- 19 **When using a 230V mixer 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 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.

- 20 Mixers using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 19(d) above.
- 21 **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills or holes on motor housings are clear and free from dirt.
- 22 If the automatic cut-out operates, allow the motor to cool before re-starting.
- 23 **DO NOT** disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.
- 24 Unplug from the power supply before making adjustments to the mixer.

PETROL AND DIESEL MIXERS

- 25 **CHECK** that guards are secure. **NEVER** operate the machine with missing or defective guards on the engine.
- 26 Before starting the engine the operator should familiarise himself/herself on how to stop it.
- 27 **DO NOT** smoke when refuelling. **NEVER** refuel with the engine running.
- 28 Replace the fuel caps securely on the engine and fuel container. Wipe up any spillage immediately.
- 29 Fuel containers should be in good condition and leak proof.
- 30 **DO NOT** use the mixer in a badly ventilated area or where exhaust fumes can sink into a basement or excavation.
- 31 If it has to be used in an enclosed area, ducting may be used to discharge exhaust fumes to a safe place.
- 32 **CHECK** that there is no combustible material lying on or against the exhaust system. The exhaust pipe and silencer get very hot.
- 33 In the event of a leak of fuel or oil developing, switch the engine off immediately.
- 34 If warning lights show or gauges register outside normal limits, switch off the engine.
- 35 **DO NOT** top up with coolant while the engine is running. Allow the radiator to cool before removing the radiator cap.
- 36 When noise levels are uncomfortably high at 85-89 dB(A), it is advisable to wear hearing protectors.
- 37 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.



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