

MONTHLY H&S FOCUS JUNE 2012

POWER TOOLS

Pre-use inspection

- Check if PAT Testing (Portable Appliance Testing) is in place and updated.
- When PAT Testing is out of date, **take your equipment back to the store** (or site electrician)
- Check your equipment **daily** ie cable for damage, casing for damage
- **Report all defects**

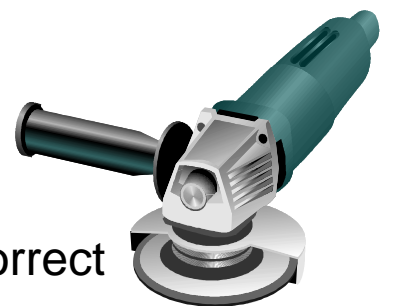


Using

- Use **only 110v** (or battery powered) portable electrical equipment on site
- Do not use any powered hand tools unless **trained and authorised**
- Be aware of the vibration effects of hand tools and comply with the **HAV's risk assessment** requirements
- Observe **PPE** requirements

Abrasive Wheels

- Only grinding machines that are compliant with the Provision & Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 to be brought onto site.
- All safety guarding to be correctly adjusted and only the correct speed rating discs to be fitted by competent, trained persons.



Cartridge Tools

- Only low power indirect tools are to be used on site by certified persons
- Cartridge tools and cartridges must be stored securely and a log must be maintained on issue and returns.



ASK for the details of vibration safe working limits to AVOID injuries such as Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome

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POWER TOOLS

Hand-Arm Vibration (HAV)

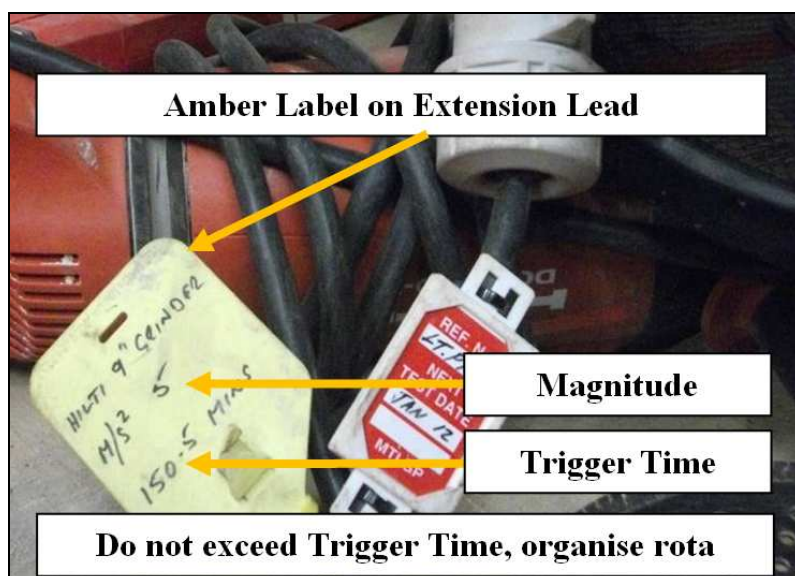
Several tools (e.g cut-off-saw, drills, grinder...) have a potential to cause serious health problems. The seriousness depends on:

- **Frequency of use**
- **Time of use**

Hand- arm vibration syndrome (**HAVS**) affects your fingers, hands and arms. Symptoms may include Raynaud's phenomenon (this is the 'white finger' part), nerve damage, and muscular aches and pains.

How to avoid HAVs:

- Use suitable low-vibration tools
- Use the right tool for each job
- Check tools before using them to make sure they have been properly maintained and repaired to avoid increased vibration
- Ensure **label showing Trigger time** (Exposure Action Value) is in place prior to use:



Colour code system in place for label:

- **Red**: As per Risk Assessment
- **Amber**: Up to 2 hrs
- **Green**: Up to 8 hrs

- Record Exposure on form C3-41
- If no label is displayed on extension lead, **take the tool back to the store**