

SAFE WORK PROCEDURES

AIR COMPRESSOR



SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: Authorised persons only are to carry out adjustments and maintenance work on air compressors.

Sequence	Identified hazards	Key processes to be followed	Precautions / PPE required
1. Mechanical checks	Moving machine parts	De-energise machine before starting maintenance work. Inspect for loose, worn or broken parts, loose screws, bolts, etc. If belt driven, inspect belts for wear, and replace if worn or torn. Exercise care when replacing belts on pulleys to avoid trapping fingers. If necessary, adjust distance between motor and compressor to obtain correct belt tension (hand depress approximately 25mm). Replace belt guards before returning machine to use.	Replace worn belts as set. Keep hands clear of moving parts. Retighten bolts when tensioned – ensure pulleys are in line. Do not use without guards.
2. Intake filters	Dust Flying particles	Remove paper filter, “bump” against a flat surface around the circumference to dislodge dust. Use compressed air to blow dust out from inside surface.	Eye protection must be worn. Keep hands clear of air stream – wear PVC or leather gloves .
3. Check air supply filters	Air entering bloodstream Flying particles	Drain water traps before starting, and at regular intervals during use. Ensure that oilers have sufficient oil of correct type for lubrication of the equipment to be used (check manufacturer’s instructions before use). Periodically inspect fixed airlines and supply pipe work for leaks.	Keep hands clear of stream of exhausted air and water. Wear PVC or leather gloves . Eye protection must be worn.
4. Air pressure relief valve	Flying particles	Check that relief valve is operating by manual operation. Check that cut-out switch operates when maximum operating pressure is reached. Check that correct operating pressure is attained before cut-out operates.	Do not operate compressor if relief valve or cut-out switch are not operating correctly.

PRECAUTIONS:

The following precautions are to be observed in areas where these procedures are carried out.

