

WORKSHOP SAFETY

A photograph of a cluttered workshop. The room is filled with various items, including a red toolbox on the left, a blue chest of drawers, a wooden workbench, and several shelves filled with containers, tools, and materials. A red pallet jack is on the floor, and a green bucket is near the workbench. The overall scene is disorganized, highlighting potential safety risks in a workshop environment.

STOP AND THINK

SAFE

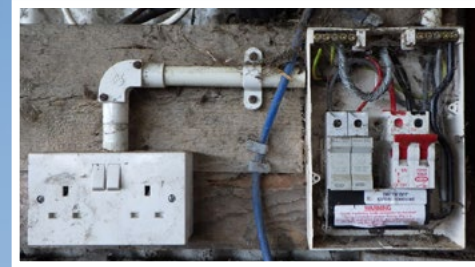
SLURRY ANIMALS FALLS EQUIPMENT

Hand Held Grinders



- Check for damage to cables and plugs
- Where possible use a 110v power supply or alternatively fit a residual current device (RCD)
- Routinely check the tool to identify and repair damage
- Keep guards in place when in use
- Consider wearing personal protective equipment such as hearing protection, eye protection and steel toe cap shoes or boots
- Ensure the floor area around where you are working is kept free from debris

Electrics



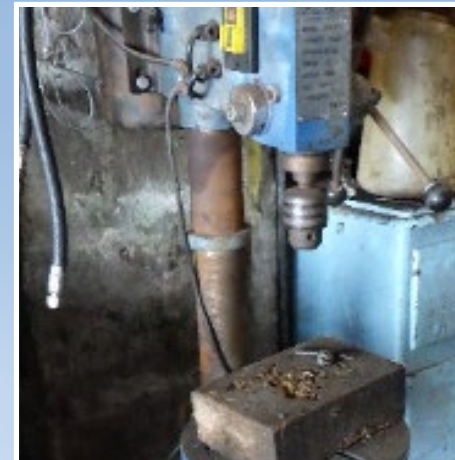
- Keep all live equipment such as fuse boxes closed and secured
- Replace broken plug sockets and damaged cables
- Use a competent electrician for repairs or installations
- Have electrical installations checked regularly
- Make sure that a suitable trip is fitted into the electrical supply
- Portable electrical equipment that is liable to be damaged should be tested (there is no set test period)

Lifting & Jacking



- Ensure the jack being used to lift a machine or vehicle is suitable and sufficient and capable of doing so
- Make sure the jack can lift the load safely and always use a suitable axle stand
- Use axle stands greater than or equal to the lifting capacity of the jack
- Only use axle stands and jacks on firm level ground
- Check jacks and axle stands before use, if there is any damage they must be taken out of use

Pillar Drills



- Use jigs, do not support a workpiece by hand
- Make sure a chuck guard is in place before operating the drill
- Make sure to stop the drill before clearing debris
- Remove the chuck key and tools before use

Welding

Potential risks

Potential controls

Electric shock

Never use welding equipment with damaged insulation on the welding cables, plugs, clamps or torch/electrode holder

Wear clean, dry welding gloves and overalls

Fire

Clear away wood, fabric, cardboard and other flammable material before starting the job

Keep a suitable fire extinguisher nearby while welding

Fit flashback arrestors and only use crimped joints when using flammable gases

Avoid wearing nylon overalls when welding

Eye Damage

Welding helmets protect you from UV radiation, particles, debris, hot slag and chemical burns

Safety glasses protect your eyes when using grinders to clean welds

Fumes

Welding fume is classed as carcinogenic. Only weld in a well ventilated area, wear a suitable mask and keep fumes to a minimum

For bigger welding jobs seek advice from the HSENI website

General

A tidy workshop is safer than an untidy workshop and tools can be found more easily when stored properly.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be to hand such as gloves, goggles, ear defenders and masks. Make sure they are suitable for the job you are doing.

Keep children away from the workshop and make sure the door to the workshop is closed and locked when not in use.

For more information please contact:

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