

Date: _____

Job Name: _____

*Knowing how to
operate powder-
actuated tools
safely is a matter
of life & death.*

Powder-actuated tools are some of the safest tools in the construction industry. These tools are designed with safety in mind. However, you must remember that a powder-actuated tool uses explosive charges to drive studs, nails and pins, just like bullets from a gun. Think of powder-actuated tools as loaded firearms. OSHA's regulations allow only trained and certified employees to operate powder-actuated tools. There are several makes and models of these tools, and no two are exactly alike. Training and operator certification should be available from the supplier or manufacturer. If you haven't had the appropriate training don't use a powder-actuated tool.

Here are some safety tips:

- Always keep powder-actuated tools, fasteners, and charges in a safe place when they are not in use.
- Inspect the tool before use to ensure it is clean, all moving parts operate freely, and the barrel is not obstructed.
- Wear appropriate safety equipment including eye protection, hearing protection, and head protection.
- Check the manufacturer's recommendations for disposal instructions in case of a misfire.
- Powder-actuated tools should not be used on materials that are easily penetrated.
- Don't fire fasteners into cast iron, high carbon or tempered steel, armor plate, rock, glazed brick, tile, or glass.
- Using a charge that is too strong could shoot the fastener completely through the work-piece.
- Never try to release a loaded tool that has jammed in the firing position.
- Hold the tool perpendicular to the work surface.
- Never point a powder-actuated tool at others whether it is loaded or not.
- Loaded tools should not be left unattended.
- All powder-actuated tools must be tested daily and all defects must be corrected.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for maintenance, inspection, and cleaning.
- Never place your hand over the muzzle of a powder-actuated tool.

Powder-actuated tools save a great deal of time and work, but they can also be very dangerous. Even though you may be certified to use them, take a few minutes to review the operator's manual, then make sure you really understand it.

Supervisor Signature: _____

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

Vol.24 | No.23 | Week of 06-04-24

MEETING ATTENDEES

Date:

Job Name:

Print:

Signature: