



SITE SAFETY MEETING - TOOL BOX TALK

POWER ACTUATED TOOL SAFETY

Powder actuated tools are nothing more than a gun that fires a stud into a wall. As such, the safety rules that apply to firearm safety should almost always apply to the use of powder actuated tools. No one will be allowed to operate a powder actuated tool without proper training.

The rules discussed today are not intended to be a complete set, but serve as a reminder and a starter.

Basic General Safety Rules

- ☛ Allow only qualified workers trained and have on their person a qualified operator card for operating powder activated tools.
- ☛ Inspect the tool before each use.
- ☛ Test the tool before each use.
- ☛ Always follow the manufacturer's specifications for operation.
- ☛ Always study and determine the proper charge.
- ☛ Know what is on the other side of the work surface.
- ☛ Know what is on the work surface.
- ☛ Don't allow other workers on the other side of the work surface.
- ☛ Know what can't be shot into, such as cast iron, high carbon steel, armor plate, glazed brick, glass, or tile. See manufacturer's instructions.
- ☛ Load just prior to shooting.
- ☛ Always wear eye protection.
- ☛ Store the tools, charges and studs safely and securely.
- ☛ Don't try to fix jams and misfires.

Hazard Examples:

- ☛ Flying particles
- ☛ Studs being shot through the work area
- ☛ Studs ricocheting
- ☛ Fire hazards
- ☛ Interchanging tool charges with firearm charges

Important: The example's of hazards and basic general safety rules we discussed is only a partial listing. It is not a substitute for formal training. Powder actuated tools in the wrong or unqualified hands can be as deadly as any firearm. Use extreme caution when you are using or are around a powder actuated tool.

Should any question arise that you cannot answer, contact your employer, the tool manufacturer or refer to OSHA regulations for more information.

Questions to start discussion

1. Why is a power actuated tool similar to a firearm?
2. What training is required to operate a power actuated tool?
3. What are some of the basic safety requirements for safely operating a power actuated tool?
4. What are some hazard examples of working with or around power actuated tools?
5. Where can you learn how to safely operate power actuated tools?

(Tool Box Talk 11-07; Copy Source © Washington State Department of Labor and Industries POWDER ACTUATED TOOLS) The loss control information described above is general information only, provided to management as a guide as to how they might fulfill their responsibilities for the control of accidents, injury and/or losses, loss-producing situations involving their premises and/or operations. Such information is not intended to meet any particular federal, state or local health or safety law or regulation. It does not aim to be complete or to substitute for a safety inspection.

Meeting Notes:

Employee Comments / Concerns: _____

Other Safety issues to be addressed on the job: _____

Training Record: Date: _____ Jobsite: _____ By: _____ Title: _____

Employee Name	Emp #	Signature	Employee Name	Emp #	Signature
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Tool Box Talks are employee safety meetings designed to serve as 15 minute on-site training sessions focused on key topics relative to your work.

Site superintendents or foremen are responsible for holding meetings each week usually during a morning break. This important segment of your general safety program encourages open discussion on the topic of the week and allows employees to share their experiences about accidents and safe or unsafe work practices. Recordkeeping is mandatory and all involved must sign off on each session.

Topics for your company could include: electrical safety, excavation and trenching safety, fall protection, scaffold safety, stairway and ladder safety, hazard communication, fire safety, personal protective equipment, tool safety, materials handling, etc.

Sample Tool Box Talks are provided compliments of the Safety Committee of the Hartford County Homebuilders Association. For more information on Tool Box Talks contact The HBA office 860 563-4212. *Tool Box Safety Talks* can be purchased from the National Association of Homebuilders 1-800 368-5242, www.nahb.com or may be available through your business insurance provider.

BUILD SAFELY – THINK SAFETY