

 DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY <i>Inspiring Minds</i> Safe Work Instructions For Compressed Air Systems and Tools	Policy Sponsor: Assistant Vice President Facilities Management	Approval Date: September 2010
	Responsible Unit: Trade Services	Revisions: January 2018
Hazards Identified: Dust, flying debris, high pressure jets of air, faulty connections,		
Personal Protective Equipment Required: Safety glasses or goggles, safety gloves, safety boots, dust masks, coveralls		
Training Required: Use of required PPE, proper use of the equipment involved,		
Reference Material: Equipment Manuals		

These safe work instructions must be followed at all times when using this equipment.

1. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper use of this equipment.
2. Do not operate the air hose before you have checked all connections to ensure they are working properly and will not come apart under pressure.
3. Do not use this equipment for anything other than its intended purpose.
4. Do not tamper with or attempt to modify this equipment in any way.
5. Do not use this equipment unless you have been properly trained.
6. Ensure required personal protective equipment is used at all times.
7. Regularly check the compressor and the air hose for cracks, bulges or abrasions before opening any valves to allow air into the hose.
8. Replace the hose if it is defective.
9. Keep the air line uncoupled, off the floor, coiled up and hanging on a hose rack when not in use.
10. Ensure that the compressor is set-up properly in a safe location prior to use.
11. Use a supply air regulator and ensure the pressure is adjusted so that it does not exceed the manufacturer's recommended pressure rating for the tool to be used.
12. Always hold on to the nozzle when turning the air ON or OFF.
13. Always ensure that the nozzle is aimed away from any dust or dirt that could be blown onto other people when the air is turned on.

14. Never kink the hose in an attempt to stop air flow.
15. Always turn off the air and the control valve to stop the air flow.
16. Always check the condition of any air powered tool and connections before and during use to ensure they are in good condition.
17. Never aim the nozzle of a compressed air line at yourself or at another person.
18. Never look into the nozzle for any reason when the line is pressurized.
19. Never use a compressed air line for joking around.
20. Do not use a compressed air system for cleaning your clothing.
21. Avoid using compressed air for cleaning machinery, work surfaces or floor areas.
22. If, due to extenuating circumstances, compressed air is used for a small amount of cleaning the maximum nozzle pressure must stay below 207kPa (30 psi) and preferably below 15 psi.
23. If compressed air is used to clean a small area, proper eye and face protection must be use and bare skin must be protected.
24. Keep air hoses away from high traffic areas or anywhere that the hoses may create a tripping hazard.
25. Always ensure that tools cannot accidentally eject an attachment when under pressure.
26. Ensure that all portable hand held tools meet the requirements of CAN/CSA-C22.2 NO. 60745-1-07 (R2017) – Hand-Held Motor Operated Electric Tools – Safety – Part 1: General Requirements (Bi-National Standard, with UL 60745-1)
27. Always relieve the pressure in the line before disconnecting an air tool from an air line.
28. Do not load or transport coupled air tools with the trigger depressed.
29. Always relieve the pressure before disconnecting a hose joint unless there is automatic valve closing protection at the joint.
30. Always disconnect an air tool from a line before performing repairs.
31. Make sure the air is discharged from any fastener driving air tool when it is disconnected from the compressed air line.
32. Ensure that all pneumatic powered fasteners with automatic fastener feed have a safety device on the muzzle.