| DALHOUSIE<br>UNIVERSITY                                      | Policy Sponsor: Assistant Vice President Facilities Management | Approval Date:<br>June 2010 |
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| Facilities Management<br>Band Saws<br>Safe Work Instructions | Responsible Unit:<br>Facilities Management                     | Revisions:                  |

**Service:** Trade Services Shop: Carpentry

## Hazards Identified:

Flying objects, dust, moving blade and other parts, noise, cluttered floor / work area, slippery conditions,

## **Personal Protective Equipment Required:**

Safety footwear, safety goggles or glasses, face shield, respiratory protection, ear protection

## **Training Required:**

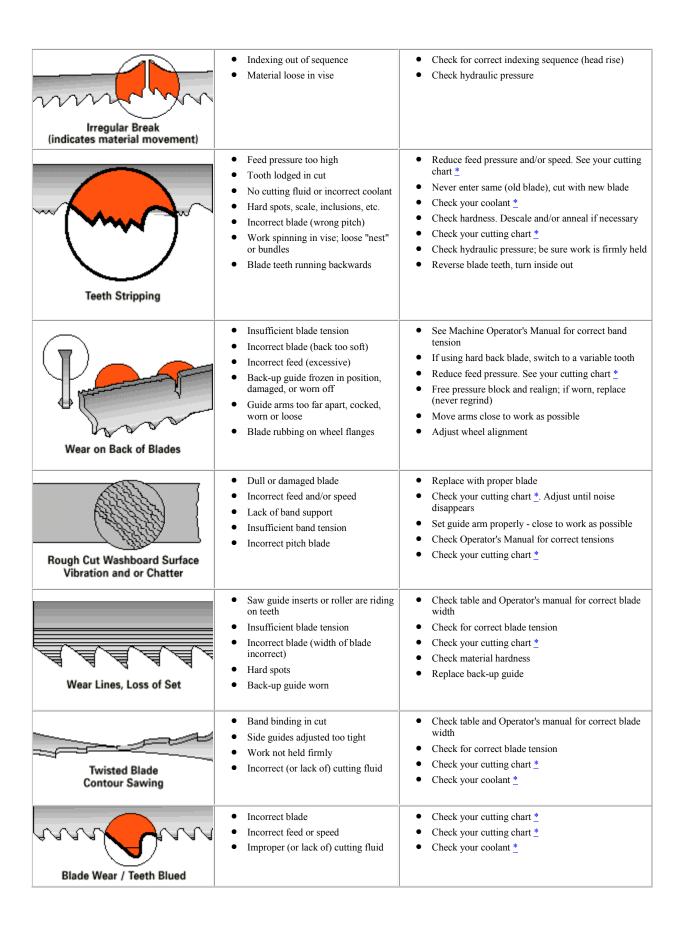
Proper Operation of Band Saws PPE Training

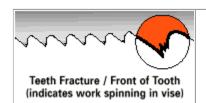
These safe work practices must be followed at all times and are to be reviewed annually.

- 1. Only properly trained, competent, employees are allowed to operate this equipment.
- 2. DO NOT use this equipment for any purposes other than those intended by the manufacturer.
- 3. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for use and maintenance.
- 4. Required PPE must be worn at all times during the operation of this equipment.
- 5. Do not wear gloves, loose clothing, jewelry, or, have long hair loose when operating this equipment.

- 6. Check stock to be used for knots, or in the case of used material for other foreign objects.
- 7. Ensure that the work area around the band saw neat, clean and fre of debris or anything that could create a slippery floor surface.
- 8. Ensure that all guards are in place, secured, and working properly.
- 9. Ensure that the dust collection system is used while working.
- 10. Ensure that you have the proper blade size and type for the work to be performed.
- 11. Ensure the upper blade guard is adjusted to 1/8 inch above the material to be cut.
- 12. Ensure that blade tension tracking, blade guides and blade support bearings are properly adjusted.
- 13. Keep hands away from the blade. USE A PUSH STICK to clear things from around the blade.
- 14. Avoid awkward hand positions and / or actions.
- 15. Ensure that the material you are cutting is held firmly against the table.
- 16. Ensure that you have a firm grip on the material and feed it into the blade at a moderate pace.
- 17. Never start the saw with the blade against the material to be cut.
- 18. Always turn the saw OFF to back the blade out of a jammed or incomplete cut.
- 19. Make "relief" cuts in the material before you make cuts that are long curves.
- 20. Never reach under the table when the saw is running.
- 21. Never leave a running saw unattended.
- 22. Turn the saw off and wait for the blade to stop completely before backing the saw out of a cut, cleaning around the blade, changing the angle of the table or securing materials.
- 23. Ensure that all band wheels are enclosed.

| Band Saw Trouble Chart   |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  | Probable Cause  | Solution  |  |
| Blade Breakage<br>Straight Break Indicates Fatigue             | <ul> <li>Incorrect blade</li> <li>Band tension too high</li> <li>Excessive feed</li> <li>Incorrect cutting fluid</li> <li>Wheel diameter too small for blade being used</li> <li>Worn or chipped pressure block (back-up guide)</li> <li>Blade rubbing on wheel flanges</li> <li>Teeth in contact with work before starting saw</li> <li>Side guides too tight</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Teeth too coarse. Check your cutting chart *</li> <li>Reduce band tension. See Machine Operator's Manual</li> <li>Reduce feed pressure</li> <li>Check your coolant *</li> <li>Use thinner blade and lower speed</li> <li>Check pressure block. Replace if worn</li> <li>Adjust wheel alignment</li> <li>Allow 1/2" clearance before starting cut</li> <li>See Machine Operator's Manual</li> </ul> |  |
| Premature Dulling of Teeth                                     | Blade teeth inverted (backwards) Improper break-in period Hard spots in material (like scale) Material work hardened (check for hardness and adjust feed) Improper cutting fluid or mixture Speed and feed too high   | <ul> <li>Install blade correctly</li> <li>Reduce feeds and speeds during <u>break-in</u> period in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations</li> <li>Check material for actual hardness - hard spots like scale or flame cut surfaces</li> <li>Increase feed pressure</li> <li>Check your coolant *</li> <li>Check your cutting chart *</li> </ul>  |  |
| MATERIAL MATERIAL  | <ul> <li>Teeth dull</li> <li>Over or under feed</li> <li>Improper pitch blade</li> <li>Cutting fluid not applied evenly</li> <li>Incorrect blade (too many teeth per inch)</li> <li>Guides worn or loose</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Use new blade</li> <li>Check your cutting chart *</li> <li>Check your cutting chart *</li> <li>Adjust coolant nozzles</li> <li>Check your cutting chart *</li> <li>Tighten or replace guides</li> </ul>  |  |
| Band Leading in Cut  | <ul> <li>Over feed</li> <li>Lack of band tension</li> <li>Tooth set damage</li> <li>Loose guide arms or set too far from work</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Check your cutting chart *</li> <li>Check Operator's Manual for correct tension</li> <li>Check material hardness</li> <li>Adjust arm as close to work as possible - tighten and align. Check guide</li> </ul>  |  |
| Chip Welding   | <ul> <li>Improper or lack of cutting fluid</li> <li>Wrong coolant</li> <li>Excessive speed or pressure</li> <li>Incorrect blade (wrong pitch)</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Check your coolant *</li> <li>Check your coolant *</li> <li>Reduce speed or pressure. Check your cutting chart *</li> <li>Check your coolant *</li> </ul>  |  |
| Teeth Fracture Back of Tooth (indicates work spinning in vise) | <ul> <li>Incorrect feed and/or speed</li> <li>Incorrect blade (wrong pitch)</li> <li>Saw guides not adjusted properly</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Check your cutting chart *</li> <li>Check your cutting chart *</li> <li>Adjust or replace saw guides</li> </ul>  |  |





- Material loose in vise
- Incorrect blade (wrong pitch)
- Check hydraulic pressure
- Check your cutting chart \*