

Safe Operating Procedures

WHS ERS SOP 23 – BANDSAW Operation

DO NOT use this machine unless appropriately instructed in its safe use and operation and permission to operate has been given.

COMPULSORY PPE



Nitrile gloves, hearing protection, face shield, closed-in shoes, PVC apron

AS NEEDED PPE



Dust masks and hair nets.

HOUSEKEEPING

The bandsaw can be a very dangerous piece of equipment, capable of rapidly slicing through body parts. Take precaution when using this machine

PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- Locate and ensure you are familiar with all machine operations and controls
- Ensure all guards are fitted, secure and functional. Do not operate if guards are missing or faulty.
- Check workspaces and walkways to ensure no slip/trip hazards are present.

PROCEDURES

Preparing PPE

- Before beginning to operate bandsaw, remove all jewellery. This includes but is not limited to rings, watches, necklaces and bangles.
- Ensure long sleeves have been folded back and are secured, and loose clothing is tucked away and secured.
- Wear a blue PVC apron, face shield (or safety glasses for now) and nitrile gloves. Do not wear chain-mail gloves except for when handling the cutting blade.

Isolate machine

- Isolate the machine from the electrical supply by punching the red stop button. Further isolate it by turning the bandsaw off at the wall.

Preparing blades

- Open panels and remove relevant covers.
- Exercise care when handling the isolated cutting blade. The teeth can be very sharp and if handled incorrectly may cause personal injury. You are welcome to use steel mesh gloves when handling the blades.

Blade fitting

- Fit cutting blade to bandsaw by positing it on the drive and fly wheels. Check blade fits into blade guides and in the scrapers. You may adjust the scrapers to scrape the blade surface – these should touch the blade's cutting teeth.
- Check the rotation of the blade is anti-clockwise and the teeth are pointing down on to the cutting deck.
- To tension the blade, tighten the hand-wheel at the top of the bandsaw clockwise until you hear the loud "clunk." Three clunks and the blade will be correctly tensioned. Do not over tension as the blade may snap.

Preparing bandsaw

- Close top door.
- Ensure dust catch tray is secured under fly wheel behind bottom door.
- Close bottom door.

This SOP should be used in conjunction with relevant machinery manuals and manufacturer recommendations.

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Preparing PPE

- Recheck for any loose clothing, jewellery or any hazards.
- Make sure all compulsory PPE is fitted – fit ear muffs and ensure PVC apron, face shield, nitrile gloves and closed-in shoes (preferably gum boots) are being worn.

Operating bandsaw

- Ensure blade guard is correctly set in position. Never operate the bandsaw without the blade guard in position.
- Move the moveable guide into position. This will be different for each specimen – always keep the guide assembly as close to the point of cutting as possible.
- Plug in and turn on at wall.
- Rotate red safety stop button until it clicks out.
- Press green button to start. Machine will take approximately two seconds to reach full speed.
- Begin to guide cadavers into the bandsaw after it has reached full speed. Ensure the flattest side of the specimen is face-down – it should be as stable as possible.
- Do not force specimens through the blade. The cutting action should be smooth and rhythmical.
- Remain focused and take care whilst operating the bandsaw.
- The operator’s fingers may be close to the blade particularly with smaller cuts. If this is the case, guide the specimen through by gently pulling, or use another cut to push the portion through.

Stopping bandsaw

- Push the red stop button or simply kick the kick-stop block on the base of the machine. Machine will stop within four seconds.
- If the bandsaw is used for too long and overheats, a built-in motor protection will automatically kick in and stop the machine. Should this occur, allow sufficient time for the machine to cool by pressing the red stop button to reset the overload and then restart the machine with the green start button.
- Further isolate the machine by turning off at the wall and removing the plug.

Disassembly

- Ensure bandsaw has been electrically isolated.
- To remove the blade, the hand-wheel should be turned in anti-clockwise direction until the blade is slack.
- Take care whilst lifting the blade from the top wheel and carefully remove from between the blade guides and scrapers.
- Grip the top wheel firmly and lift up. The top wheel assembly will then pull out of the top of the guide ways.
- The sliding table (if fitted), can be removed by removing the butterfly nut and bolt underneath the table. The table can then be withdrawn.
- The bone dust collection box can be simply removed from behind the bottom door.

Cleaning

- Wash blades thoroughly using Viraclean or detergent, hot water and scrubbing brush.
- Empty the bone dust collection box, and clean it thoroughly using an approved detergent and sanitiser, scrubbing brush and hot potable water.
- Using Viraclean or detergent, a scrubbing brush and hot water, scrub the Machine, table, wheels and external surfaces thoroughly ensuring all product residue has been removed.
- Leave the machine and work area in a safe, clean and tidy state.

Reassembly

- Refit all removable parts of bandsaw.
- It is recommended the blade is left off the machine overnight, and stored in a safe manner. It is recommended to be stored by manipulating the blade into a triple-circle

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SPECIAL NOTE

NO PERSONNEL ARE TO USE THIS EQUIPMENT PRIOR TO OBTAINING:

- COMPETANCY IN THE CORRECT USE OF THE EQUIPMENT (**AMPX201: Prepare and Operate a Bandsaw; AMPR201 Break and cut using a Bandsaw**)
- READING AND FULLY UNDERSTANDING THE OPERATOR'S MANUAL
(https://www.vikingfoodsolutions.com.au/sites/default/files/pdf/service_assist/Thompson-Bandsaw-Mk-Manual.pdf)
- READING THE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
- UNDERGOING THOROUGH PRACTICAL TRAINING WHILE PROPERLY SUPERVISED (**achieved by completing AMPX201 and AMPR201**)

All completed SOPs are to be recorded in TRIM Container A17/2181 utilising a TRIM license in your School/Business Unit. Completed SOPs are to be published on Safety Hub for ongoing utilisation.

Employee Name: _____

Employee Signature: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor Name: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

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