



Safe Work Procedure		Radial Arm Saw	
Department / Area: Physical Plant Services	Approved By: Regional Manager of Physical Plant Services	Date Created: September 5 2014	Review Date: Revised date:
Potential Hazards:  Fill in those that apply  H M L Risk for Injury  Sharp points / edges – saw blade, wood  Moving machinery – saw blade  Awkward / sustained postures – lifting / reaching  Noise – cutting with saw  Forceful exertions – lifting wood  Vibration  Respiratory – wood dust  Electrical  Other – clothing getting caught in machinery		Personal protective equipment / devices required / other safety considerations:  ➤ Eye Protection / Goggles and Face Shield  ➤ Hearing Protection  ➤ Appropriate closed toe footwear  ➤ Disposable Respirator (N95) or Half Mask Respirator if dusty conditions  ➤ Dust Collection Bag or System (if available)  ➤ Secure loose clothing, hair, jewelry, or draw strings from hoods that could become entangled in tool  ➤ Ensure guards are in place	
		Training / Reference Information:  ➤ SCHIPP Module 1 training  ➤ Department Orientation  ➤ Operator's Manual	
<b>Note:</b> Signs and symptoms of a musculoskeletal injury (MSI) can include pain, burning, swelling, stiffness, numbness/tingling, and/or loss of movement or strength in a body part. Report these to your supervisor.			
Employers must ensure that workers are trained and follow this safe work procedure.			

- > Ensure any loose fitting clothing or long hair is tucked in or contained.
- > Pre-inspect saw for possible defects before using. Check electrical cords, switches, guards, and that end plates are secured. Ensure dust collection system is engaged, if available.
- > Operate saw on a firm level surface.

Steps to perform this task safely:

- ➤ Obtain wood and inspect it for defects and foreign objects, discard defective pieces. When lifting materials, try to keep your back straight and keep the load close to reduce stress on your back. Bend hips and knees rather than bending at the waist. Avoid twisting your back by instead taking small steps to turn.
- ➤ Place wood on platform. Ensure there is additional support for long lengths of material.
- > Put on appropriate PPE.
- Adjust saw for desired cut angle and tighten adjustment knob(s).
- > Turn on saw. Hold wood firmly on platform and against fence. Keep hands away from blade. To rip narrow stock, use the manufacturer's support system. Do not try to force the saw while cutting.
- Never try to pick up or move wood next to the blade with your hands when the blade is turning and never try to freehand wood into the blade.
- > When task is complete, shut off saw and remove wood. Never leave a running saw unattended.
- > De-energize the saw and lock out machine before changing the blade or performing maintenance.

- If there is a large amount of saw dust, wear eye protection and a respirator while cleaning.
   Follow Operator's Manual for instructions to change the blade.