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| ***Portable_Plant_SOP***  **METAL NIBBLER** | |
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| **DO NOT** use this machine unless a teacher has instructed you in its safe use and operation and has given permission | |
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| Approved safety glasses and face shield must be worn at all times in work areas. | Contain or restrain long and loose hair and remove exposed rings or jewellery. |
| Foot Protection circleAppropriate protective footwear with substantial uppers must be worn. | Wear close fitting protective clothing, overalls or a suitable workshop apron. |
| Hearing Protection circleHearing protection *should* be worn when noise levels are excessive. | Hand Protection circleProtective leather welding gloves *must* be worn when using this equipment. |

### **DO NOT use faulty equipment – report this immediately to your teacher**

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### **PRE-OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS**

1. **Ensure this power tool has a suitable safe work area.**
2. **Ensure the blade is intact and suits the material to be cut.**
3. **Ensure all required blade guarding is in place.**
4. **Examine the power lead and plug for obvious damage.**

#### OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

1. **Check that the reciprocating cutting blade runs ‘true’. Listen for noisy or worn gearing problems.**
2. **Ensure the sheet metal is secure and well supported.**
3. **Do not plug in until all adjustments have been made.**
4. **Ensure the power cord is well clear of the cutter blade.**
5. **Check the underside of the cut to ensure that the blade will not cause any damage or be obstructed.**
6. **Allow the nibbler to reach full speed before cutting.**
7. **Always cut at a moderate rate. Do not apply excessive force to the sheet material being cut.**
8. **Keep hands well away from the cutting operation. Off-cut material will usually be very sharp. Always wear leather gloves to protect your hands.**
9. **Take particular care when handling any sheet metal.**
10. **Take care when cutting tighter curves or corrugated metals to ensure that the blade does not bind.**
11. **If the blade binds, release the switch immediately – free the cutter blade and inspect for any damage.**
12. **On completion, wait for the reciprocating cutter blade to stop moving before resting the nibbler on its side.**

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| **Ensure the blade runs ‘true’ and does not wobble.** |

#### HOUSEKEEPING

1. **Return this tool to the appropriate storage cupboard.**
2. **Leave the work area in a safe, clean and tidy condition.**

## POTENTIAL HAZARDS

* + **Moving, rotating and sharp parts ◼ Eye injuries ◼ Electricity**
  + **Dust ◼ Burns ◼ Ejected material**

**Date of last review:**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_