


## Safety Guide for Cutting and Grinding Wheels

### SMI Dust and Silica Warning

Grinding/cutting/drilling of masonry, concrete, metal, and other materials can generate dust, mists and fumes containing chemicals known to cause serious or fatal injury or illness, such as respiratory disease, cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm. If you are unfamiliar with the risks associated with the particular process and/or material being cut or the composition of the tool being used, review the material safety data sheets and/or consult your employer, the manufacturers/suppliers, governmental agencies such as OSHA and NIOSH and other sources on hazardous materials. California and some other authorities, for instance, have published lists of substances known to cause cancer, reproductive toxicity, or other harmful effects.

Control dust, mist and fumes at the source where possible. In this regard use good work practices and follow the recommendations of the manufacturers/suppliers, OSHA/NIOSH, and occupational and trade associations. Water should be used for dust suppression when wet grinding/cutting/drilling is feasible. When the hazards from inhalation of dust, mists and fumes cannot be eliminated, **the operator and any bystanders should always wear a respirator approved by NIOSH/MSHA for the material being used.**

Grinding/cutting/drilling of masonry, concrete, and other materials with silica in their composition may give off dust or mists containing crystalline silica. Silica is a basic component of sand, quartz, brick clay, granite and numerous other minerals and rocks. Repeated and/or substantial inhalation of airborne crystalline silica can cause serious or fatal respiratory diseases, including silicosis. In addition, California and some other authorities have listed respirable crystalline silica as a substance known to cause cancer. When grinding/cutting/drilling such materials, always follow the respiratory precautions mentioned above.

 **WARNING:** This product contains Silica Crystalline, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov)

### ! WARNING !

Bonded abrasives improperly used are DANGEROUS!!!

Improper use may cause grinding wheel breakage and serious injury. Comply with ANSI B7.1, OSHA and the following safety guide. Don't over speed, abuse, or drop wheel. Always use a guard, personal protective equipment and proper mounting procedures.

### ! WARNING !

Grinding generates dust.

Most of the dusts being generated are from the material being ground.

Excessive dust inhalation will adversely affect the breathing function.

To avoid breathing impairment always use dust controls and protective measures appropriate to the material being ground.

SEE FEDERAL HAZARD COMMUNICATION STANDARD 29CFR. 1910. 1200.

### DO

DO ALWAYS HANDLE AND STORE WHEELS IN A CAREFUL manner.

DO VISUALLY INSPECT all wheels before mounting for possible damage.

DO CHECK MACHINE SPEED against the established maximum safe operating speed marked on the wheel.

DO CHECK MOUNTING FLANGES for equal and correct diameter.

DO ALWAYS USE A SAFETY GUARD covering at least one-half of the grinding wheel.

DO ALWAYS WEAR PROTECTIVE SAFETY GLASSES and additional eye & face protection if required

### DON'T

DON'T USE A CRACKED WHEEL OR ONE THAT HAS BEEN DROPPED or become damaged.

DON'T FORCE A WHEEL ONTO THE MACHINE OR ALTER the size of the mounting hole - if the wheel won't fit the machine, get one that will.

DON'T FORCE GRINDING Steady working pressure is very important for proper cutting. Avoid excessive pressure, which generates heat and excessive wear.

DON'T over-tighten mounting nuts. Avoid "springing" the flanges

DON'T GRIND ON THE SIDE OF THE WHEEL Avoid all side pressure to cut-off wheels.

DON'T cock, jam, wedge or twist the wheel in the cut. It could bind or break causing severe injury or death.