



Safety Tip of the Week

Air Compressor Safety

Compressed air is present in just about every industry for many functions, from running huge equipment, to powering simple air tools. It is a valuable utility and is a safe power source, when used properly. However, compressed air should be used with caution and handled with care to avoid unexpected incidents and injuries.



General Safety Requirements for Compressed Air:

- REMEMBER...Always wear proper eye and face protection!
- Use only rated pipes, hoses, and fittings, and compressed air pipelines identifying maximum working pressure (psi). Locate air supply shutoff valves (as nearly as possible) to the point-of-operation.
- Maintain hoses where they will not cause personnel to trip or fall, (i.e., suspend hoses overhead, locate them to provide efficient access and protection from damage). Keep air hoses free of grease and oil, reducing the possibility of deterioration. Secure hose ends to prevent whipping motion, if a cut in the hose occurs.
- Turn off control valve, bled tool of air supply, before disconnecting (unless it has quick disconnect plugs). Don't use compressed air to clean dirt and dust from clothing or off a person's skin. Regulate shop air used for cleaning to 15 psi unless equipped with diffuser nozzles to provide lesser pressure.

REMEMBER...static electricity is an issue with this type of equipment. Use ground/bond techniques (where fuel, flammable vapors, or explosive atmospheres are present).

***IF YOU DON'T PRACTICE ELECTRICAL SAFETY,
THERE CAN BE ELECTRIFYING RESULTS!!***