

TOOLBOX TALKS

SAFE PRACTICES—HIGH PRESSURE AIR

Toolbox Talks are designed to promote safety discussions and best practices on the jobsite. To see more Toolbox Talks, please visit cat.com/toolboxtalks.

High pressure air is used so frequently in industry that it is often taken for granted. High pressure air can be very dangerous if you don't use it in a safe manner. Here are some tips that will help remind you of being safe while using high pressure air.

ACCIDENTS CAN HAPPEN

High pressure air, used improperly, can cause many serious injuries such as:

- Blindness
- Fatality if shot through the nose, open mouth or a break in the skin
- Hearing loss

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Always read and understand the Operation and Maintenance Manual (OMM)
- Always wear the correct Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while using high pressure air
- Before use check all air hoses, couplings and connections for leaks and other damage
- Always attach the tool securely to the hose before turning the compressor on
- Never point the hose at another person, and always make sure no one is at the point of operation of the air tool
- Wait until others are out of the line of air flow
- Avoid stringing hoses across the floor or aisles where they would be tripping hazards
- If possible, air hoses should be suspended overhead to reduce damage to the hose as well as tripping hazards in the work area
- Use only as much air pressure as needed to get the job done, and never use more than the recommended air pressure of the equipment
- Never lift air tools by the hose
- Never use air pressure to clean dirt or remove dust from clothing or skin

Discussion Date:

Employee Participants:

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There are a lot of moving parts on the jobsite. To find a safety topic relevant to your operation, please visit cat.com/toolboxtalks.

