

PURPOSE/APPLICATION

To provide guidance on the safe use and care of knives.

PPE

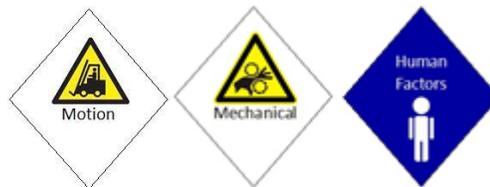
- CPES Minimum Requirements
- Hand Protection

TRAINING

- On-The-Job Instruction
- Review of Manufacturer’s Instructions

HAZARD SOURCES & CONCERNS

- Motion – Sharp Edges



PRECAUTIONS

- Knives are not to be used for certain tasks (e.g., cutting zip ties, stripping wire). Instead, use side cutters, snips, wire strippers, etc.
- Select and use the knife most appropriate for your task. For example, retractable-style knives should only be used for light duty tasks (e.g., cutting cardboard, shipping materials).

GENERAL DO’S AND DON’TS

THE DO’S:

- DO** Follow customer and/or site rules/policy for knife use (some sites may ban certain or all knives).
- DO** Choose the appropriate cutting tool for the job.
- DO** Inspect the knife to ensure it is sharp, and not damaged or defective.
- DO** Keep all body parts and coworkers out of the knife’s line of fire/path of travel.
- DO** Wear cut-resistant gloves whenever using knives or handling material with sharp edges.
- DO** Use a device other than your hand to hold the object being cut, wherever possible.
- DO** Secure work with clamps/devices or brace material against a workbench, table, etc.
- DO** Maintain your balance and proper footing at all times to better control the knife.
- DO** Keep knives clean and free from dirt, oil and other contaminants that can hinder grip.
- DO** Store knives with the blade retracted or covered/protected in scabbard.
- DO** Use tool lanyards if working at heights with workers below.

THE DON’TS:

- DON’T** Cut toward yourself or a co-worker.
- DON’T** Use excessive force on the knife to make the cut.
- DON’T** Use worn, cracked, or bent knives. Replace them immediately to avoid injury.
- DON’T** Put hands or body in the line of fire.
- DON’T** Throw or toss knives. Hand them, handle first, directly to other workers while giving verbal warning.
- DON’T** Try to catch a dropped knife.
- DON’T** Talk to others with a knife in your hand as we tend to talk with our hands.

DON'T Expect a regular work glove to protect you; use a cut-resistant glove when cutting.



PROPER USE OF KNIVES (Line of Fire and PPE)

SCRAPER USE

THE DO's:

- DO** Follow customer and/or site rules/policy for knife use (some sites may ban certain or all knives).
- DO** Choose the appropriate scraper tool for the job.
- DO** Inspect the scraper to ensure it is sharp, and not damaged or defective.
- DO** Keep all body parts and coworkers out of the line of fire/path of travel of the scraper.
- DO** Wear cut-resistant gloves whenever using knives or handling material with sharp edges.
- DO** Use both Hands to hold the scraper.
- DO** Use smooth steady strokes keeping the blade on the pipe.
- DO** Maintain your balance and proper footing at all times to better control the scraper.
- DO** Keep scrapers clean and free from dirt, oil and other contaminants that can hinder grip.
- DO** Store scrapers with the blade covered/protected using the plastic cover from manufacture whenever possible.
- DO** Use tool lanyards if working at heights with workers below.

THE DON'Ts:

- DON'T** Use scraper with blade facing towards yourself or a co-worker.
- DON'T** Use excessive force on the scraper blade causing the blade to break.
- DON'T** Use worn, cracked, or bent blades. Replace them immediately to avoid injury.
- DON'T** Put hands or body in line of fire.
- DON'T** Throw or toss scrapers. Hand them, handle first, directly to other workers giving verbal warning.
- DON'T** Try to catch a dropped scraper.
- DON'T** Talk to others with a scraper in your hand as we tend to talk with our hands.
- DON'T** Expect a regular work glove to protect you; use a cut-resistant glove when using scrapers.

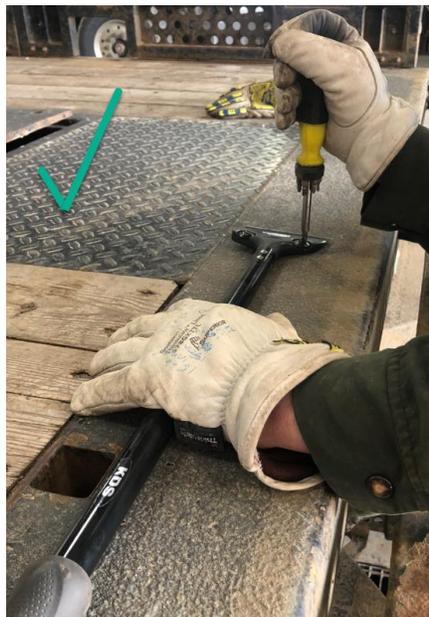
CHANGING A SCRAPER BLADE

THE DO's:

- DO** Utilise a clamp, vice, or other device to secure a scraper when changing the blades whenever possible.
- DO** Have the scraper placed on a flat surface to change the blade.
- DO** Have proper sized screwdriver for the screw head size.
- DO** Have the plastic blade cover on the blade if possible.
- DO** Have one hand on the scraper handle and on hand on the screwdriver.

THE DON'Ts

- DON'T** Hold onto the scraper while changing blades. This will increase the chance of slipping and potentially cutting yourself.
- DON'T** Use other tools to remove the screws securing the blade. Only use the proper sized screwdriver.
- DON'T** Expect a regular work glove to protect you; use a cut-resistant glove when cutting





SAFE WORK PRACTICE**Revised: June 24, 2022****SWP-76****Safe Knife Use**

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