

Factories (Explosive Powered Tools) Regulations

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Legislative History

FACTORIES ACT
(CHAPTER 104, SECTION 68)

FACTORIES (EXPLOSIVE POWERED TOOLS) REGULATIONS

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PART I

PRELIMINARY

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Factories (Explosive Powered Tools) Regulations.

Definitions

2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“authorised person” means a manufacturer, repairer, seller or dealer in tools, projectiles or charges for use in a tool, or any employee under the direct supervision of such manufacturer, repairer, seller or dealer, or such other person as may be authorised in writing by the Chief Inspector;

“charge” means explosive charge;

“contractor” means a person who has entered into a contract for the purpose of carrying out any work in a factory and includes a main contractor and a sub-contractor;

“defect” means any defect that may impair or affect the safe and normal operation of a tool;

“direct acting tool” means a tool in which the driving force on the projectile comes directly from the compressed gases from a charge;

“indirect acting tool” means a tool in which the driving force from a charge is transmitted indirectly onto the projectile via a piston;

“operator” means a person who operates an explosive powered tool and who holds a certificate certifying that he has successfully completed a course of training on the operation of a direct acting explosive powered tool which is acceptable to the Chief Inspector;

“projectile” means any stud, pin, dowel, screw, rivet, spike, nail or other object driven against, into or through any substance by means of a tool;

“recognised testing body” means a testing body acceptable to the Chief Inspector;

“repair” includes any act or attempt to improve, modify, alter or adjust any tool;

“tool” means any explosive powered device from which a projectile may be driven against, into or through any substance by means of a charge and includes every attachment or accessory used, adapted or intended to be used with the device, but does not include a firearm within the meaning of the Arms and Explosives Act [Cap. 13] or a side wall coring gun used in exploratory bore hole work;

“use”, in relation to a tool, means to load, unload, or to discharge it or attempt to load, unload or to discharge it.

Application

3.—(1) These Regulations shall apply to all factories in which an explosive powered tool is used.

(2) The provisions of these Regulations are in addition to and not in substitution for or in diminution of the other requirements imposed by or under the Act.

PART II

GENERAL

Obligations

4.—(1) No occupier, contractor or employer in a factory shall permit an employee or operator to do anything which is not in conformity with the generally accepted principles of sound and safe practice in handling or using tools.

(2) No person in a factory shall do anything with or in relation to a tool which is not in conformity with the generally accepted principles of sound and safe practice.

(3) No person in a factory shall, in relation to any tool, wilfully do any unsafe act which may cause injury to himself or to others.

(4) No person in a factory shall operate or attempt to operate a tool contrary to these

Regulations.

Information to be engraved, embossed, etc., on tools

5. The occupier of a factory or the owner of a tool shall ensure that —

- (a) the following notice shall be permanently embossed, printed or placed on all tools used in a factory:

“DO NOT REMOVE THIS TOOL FROM THE WORK SURFACE
FOR AT LEAST 10 SECONDS AFTER IT HAS FAILED TO
FIRE”; and

- (b) the serial number and model identification of the tool shall be permanently and legibly engraved or embossed upon it.

Protective shield or device

6. Every direct acting tool shall have a protective shield or device attached to its muzzle end in such a manner —

- (a) as to effectually arrest the escape of any stray projectile and other object or particle liberated by the discharge of the tool; and
- (b) that the outer edge of the shield or device is not at any point closer to the centre of the muzzle end of the barrel than a distance of 50 millimetres, except where the tool is used in the circumstances described in regulation 22.

Tools to meet standard or specification acceptable to Chief Inspector

7.—(1) No person shall use any tool unless —

- (a) the tool is manufactured in accordance with a standard or specification recommended, issued or adopted by the Singapore Institute of Standards and Industrial Research or by some other testing body acceptable to the Chief Inspector;
- (b) the projectile cannot be discharged from the tool if the tool is dropped onto a concrete or steel surface from a height of 3 metres or more;
- (c) the tool cannot be discharged accidentally while being handled; and
- (d) in the case of a direct acting tool, it can only be discharged —
 - (i) if a force of 110 newtons or more is applied by the operator to