General Safety

SAFETY FIRST

If you are collecting the equipment for someone else, please make sure this sheet is given to the equipment user to read. This sheet should be given to the site supervisor if the equipment is being hired for commercial use so that the information is available to all users. Before starting any job, be sure to spend a few minutes planning and understanding the hazards and risks of the activity and determining how you will control them to prevent injury or damage.

 General Equipment Always carry out a prestart inspection on equipment prior to use Ensure you are fully aware of the safety features of the equipment and how it operates Only use the equipment for its intended purpose and within it specified limitations Never remove any guarding or modify the equipment in any way 	 Fuel Powered Equipment Fuel powered equipment must never be used in poorly ventilated areas. This can lead to the build-up of carbon-monoxide. Carbon Monoxide is a colourless and odourless poisonous gas. Inhalation may lead to death or serious illness. Always ensure good circulation of air with a fresh supply of outside air. Hazardous Substances
 If the equipment requires any adjustments or has attachments or fittings that require changing, ensure the machine is isolated from the energy source such as power If in doubt, contact the local branch for assistance Never lock switches in "on" position with tape, wire or by any other means 	 Fuel vapours are explosive Always refuel in a well-ventilated space Never smoke when refuelling and ensure there are no other ignition sources nearby Equipment must be switched off when refuelling
 Electrical Equipment Ensure electrical equipment you are using has a current electrical test and tag Always ensure electrical leads and tools are not damaged prior to use Do not use electrical items where there is a risk of explosion from gas, vapour, liquid, dust or other explosive or flammable substances Always ensure leads are fully uncoiled to prevent overheating during use Do not use electrical equipment in wet environments Always ensure that power outlets are protected by an RCD (residual current device). Use an approved portable RCD if your outlet is not fitted with one 	 Asbestos Work Any contractor performing work involving asbestos is required to have an Asbestos Removal Plan as per New Zealand Guidelines for the Management and Removal of Asbestos. This includes procedures for decontaminating equipment and notifying affect parties of the potential hazard. If you are using this equipment for asbestos work, you must let us know. We require evidence of decontamination prior to returning it. It is an offence under the HSWA not to do so. WorkSafe New Zealand recommend that you do not use power tools around asbestos, if possible. The Health and Safety at Work (Asbestos) Regulations 2016 restrict the use of power tools for asbestos work. Always consult the regulations for guidance before using power tools and other equipment including angle grinders, sanders, saws, drills, brushes and brooms.
 Personal Protective Equipment Always select the correct PPE for the task Follow the machine manufacturers guidelines and the results of your own risk assessment Use double protection (face and eyes) when using high velocity equipment that may shoot debris 	Possible Required Safety Equipment

Ensure clothing is close fitting with no loose parts that may get caught in rotating machine parts

