

## Process timber using hand-fed machinery

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### Overview

This standard is about processing timber using hand-fed machinery.

This standard is applicable to those working with hand-fed machinery such as the following: mobile saw bench, firewood processor, stake splitter, pointing machine, peeler (de-barker) or wood chipper, to process timber into a wide range of products.

When working with machinery you need to be appropriately trained, and hold current certification where required, in line with relevant legislation.

Your work must conform to relevant legislation and codes of practice when carrying out this work.

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### Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess the risks associated with the site and the proposed work
2. select and implement the appropriate working methods in accordance with the assessed risks
3. select and use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
4. select, prepare and use appropriate tools and equipment, safely and effectively
5. maintain the security of machinery and equipment on site
6. carry out routine operator maintenance, pre-start checks and the setting of the machine for use
7. position and set up the machine in relation to the work site and the materials to be processed
8. process timber using hand-fed machinery, in accordance with the specification
9. stack products safely and in a position that facilitates their subsequent handling, where appropriate
10. ensure the site is left in a condition which meets environmental requirements, in accordance with the specification
11. ensure that the accumulation of processed timber and by-products is within specified limits and does not affect the safety of the site
12. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times, in accordance with relevant legislation

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### Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. how to interpret risk assessments
3. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment (PPE)
4. site procedures including communication systems and emergency planning
5. the types of tools and equipment required and how to maintain and use these safely and effectively
6. why it is important to maintain the safety and security of machinery and equipment on site
7. the need for and benefits of carrying out routine operator checks and maintenance in line with the manufacturer's recommendations
8. the capabilities and limitations of the machinery used
9. the different types of hand-fed timber processing machines available and their uses
10. the implications of terrain, ground conditions, season and weather on working and stacking areas, and on the use of the machinery
11. the current guidelines on machinery operation, risk zones and safety clearances from overhead electricity conductors, and what to do in the event of contact with power lines
12. how to set up a working area for processing timber, including the position of the timber processor, the timber ready to convert plus the product and by-product stacking areas
13. the implications of converting long timber on the operation of the machine, including producing long products such as split rails on a circular saw
14. the methods of grading, stacking and handling products and by-products, by hand and with the aid of handling machinery
15. the safe working distances between machines when working in close proximity to other machines
16. the potential impacts of your work on the environment and how these can be minimised
17. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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