

What are the hazards and how might they harm?



Injuries from nails discharged under compressed air



Injuries from deflected nails or splintering material



Hearing loss or physical damage to ears from exposure to noise



Electric shock from faulty equipment

What PPE should the individual wear?



What other precautions should be taken?



You must be trained and 18 years or older to use this equipment

Nail guns (compressed air)

Safety Task Card STCBG 32

Safe System of Work

1. Only use equipment if you have been trained to do so and follow the manufacturer's instructions.
2. Identify the on/off switch and emergency stop button, if fitted.
3. Check that the air hose is in good condition and free from damage.
4. Check that the compressor is off before connecting it to the nail gun.
5. Check that the air hose has been correctly attached to the gun.
6. Never use a nail gun with a missing push liver and muzzle safety spring or safety yoke.
7. Make sure all cabling is stored away safely behind the equipment and is not causing a trip hazard.
8. You must wear safety goggles and hearing protection when using a nail gun. Anyone else working in the vicinity must also wear safety goggles.
9. Only use nails that are approved for the equipment being used.
10. Ensure the nails are the correct thickness for the material they are being applied to.
11. Check that the mails have been correctly attached to the nail gun.
12. Ensure that the discharge point of the nail gun is pointing away from yourself and anyone else in the area at all times.
13. Do not pull the trigger whilst connecting it to the compressor.
14. Keep your finger off the trigger when not firing nails.
15. Other workers must be behind the line of work and at a safe distance.
16. Never pull the trigger unless the discharge point is pointing towards the area of work.
17. Do not drive nails on top of other nails as this can result in nails deflecting and causing injury.
18. Do not drive nails close to the edge of material, as it may cause the material to split, and nails to deflect.
19. Do not carry or reposition the nail gun with the trigger depressed

If you have any concerns, stop and speak with your line manager before proceeding

List any additional hazards or risks you have identified, and control measures required to manage these.

Nail guns (compressed air) continued

Safety Task Card
STCBG 32

Safe System of Work

20. Always disconnect the nail gun from the compressor before:
- making any adjustments,
 - servicing and reloading,
 - clearing a jam,
 - moving to another work location,
 - and when the nail gun is not in use.

If you have any concerns, stop and speak with your line manager before proceeding