

## Stone Cutter or Splitter Safety Overview

*Refer to sign-in sheet for attendees (note: a separate meeting should be held with all absent employees).*

### 1. Requirements and Recommendations:

Stone cutters and splitters use saw blades or hydraulic force to cut or split stone. If used improperly, serious injuries can occur.

### 2. Hazards:

- Flying chips (foreign body eye)
- Airborne stone dust (inhalation)
- Sharp blades (cuts/amputations)
- Rotating equipment (entanglement)
- Pinch/crush points (broken bones/amputation)
- Hydraulic leaks/spray from ruptured hoses (eye exposure/forceful injection)
- Tipping stones (fall onto hand/toes/foot)
- Heavy/bulky stones (musculoskeletal injuries from moving stones)

### 3. Safety Precautions:

- Only trained personnel may operate stone cutters and splitters (employer supplied training).
- Read and follow the manufacturer's operating instructions and any employer specific operating instructions.
- Maintain equipment in good working order.
- Inspect equipment including and hydraulic hoses and fitting prior to use to ensure that all machine guards are in-place and hydraulic hose and fittings are in-place and in good condition, as is applicable to the machine. Machine guards may include any of the following:
  - Barrier guards
  - Two-hand controls
  - Light curtains
  - Proximity sensors
- Never by-pass a machine guard or safety device.
- Do not operate a stone cutter or splitter that is determined to have deficiencies based on the inspection.
- Report any machine safety deficiencies or hazards to your Supervisor.
- Where applicable, ensure dust control equipment/measures are working properly.
- Move stones using equipment and following employer's requirements.
- Do not wear jewelry , have loose clothing and keep long hair secured to prevent entanglement in rotating equipment.
- Wear employer prescribed PPE which may include hard hat, safety glasses with side shields, face shield, gloves, safety shoes and/or respirator.

*Continued on Next Page*

#### 4. Discussion:

- Who are trained and authorized to operate stone cutters and splitters?
- What are the safeguards in-place to prevent injuries?

#### 5. Reminder:

- Safety is the responsibility of both management and employees!

Next Safety Meeting is scheduled for \_\_\_\_\_ and the topic will be \_\_\_\_\_.

### Take Exam / Review Results

The information herein is provided by MIA+BSI as a general summary for use in job site toolbox talks and is provided to augment and not substitute for or replace required training under any applicable local, state or federal workplace statute, law or regulation. It is the user's responsibility to ensure this content is consistent with job site requirements and applicable statutes, laws or regulations prior to use and make any required additions or changes.