

LEGISLATIVE INTERPRETATIONS

Topic: Abrasive wheels and grinders	Issued by: Director Chief Compliance Office
Statute: <i>General Regulation 91-191</i>	Date Issued: May 1, 2013
Section: 244	Date Revised:

Abrasive wheels and grinders

- 244(1)** An employer shall ensure that the maximum number of revolutions per minute
- (a) of an abrasive wheel, as recommended for safe use in the manufacturer's specifications, is identified on the wheel, and
 - (b) of a grinder output shaft is identified on the grinder.
- 244(2)** An employer shall ensure that an abrasive wheel is
- (a) checked for flaws before installation,
 - (b) fitted with a protective hood of sufficient strength to contain fragments of ruptured wheels, and
 - (c) mounted in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.
- 244(3)** An employer shall ensure that a tool rest is mounted on a bench grinder as close as is safely possible to the abrasive wheel.
- 244(4)** Before applying any work to an abrasive wheel, an employee shall run the wheel at full operating speed in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.
- 244(5)** An employee shall not
- (a) operate an abrasive wheel at a speed in excess of the speed set out in the manufacturer's specifications,
 - (b) do grinding on the side of an abrasive wheel unless the wheel has been designed for that purpose, or
 - (c) adjust a tool rest while the abrasive wheel is in motion.

Question

Our employees are required to use hand-held (portable) grinders on a regular basis. I understand the provisions of sections 83-85 (**Portable Power-Operated Hand Tools**) must be complied with, but is there also a requirement to comply with section 244?

Answer

In reviewing section 244, you will note that the regulation is silent as to whether the provisions outlined are limited to bench-mounted grinders, except for subsection 244(3). As a result, except for subsection 244(3) and paragraph 244(5)(c) regarding the adjustment of tool rest, the provisions of section 244 apply to portable grinders.