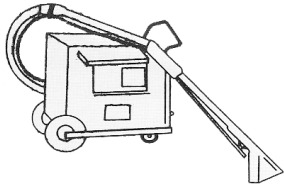




# Safety Instructions

THESE INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE READ BY THE USER BEFORE OPERATING THE MACHINE.



## 15.4 Wet & Dry Vacuum Cleaners

- This equipment is designed to be operated by someone with normal ability. Persons with a disability or injury must assess whether their disability, when using the equipment, will affect their health and safety and the safety of others.
- It should only be operated by someone with experience of similar equipment.
- This equipment must not be used by anyone whose competence is impaired, for example by drink or drugs.

- 1 The wet and dry vacuum cleaner must be operated correctly according to the manufacturer's or owner's operating instructions, which are available on request if required.
- 2 Before starting the vacuum the operator should familiarise himself/herself on how to stop it.
- 3 **DO NOT** use in flammable atmospheres where there is a danger of explosion.
- 4 **DO NOT** use this machine to vacuum flammable, corrosive or toxic waste.
- 5 These machines **DO NOT** use detergents or chemicals.
- 6 Wear personal protective equipment as conditions determine. Waterproof overalls and gloves are usually necessary.
- 7 **CHECK** that all persons and animals are clear of the work area.
- 8 During prolonged cleaning, fine dust particles will clog the filter system and may cause overheating.
- 9 **DO NOT** become distracted when carrying out cleaning.
- 10 Isolate the machine before filling, emptying or cleaning.
- 11 **DO NOT** make repairs. Contact the Hire Company.

### When Using Electrical Equipment

- 12 **CHECK** that the voltage of the supply is correct. The machine will be either 110 volts, 230 volts or powered by battery.
- 13 The use of equipment at 110V (CTE) will effectively eliminate the risk of death and greatly reduce the degree of injury from an electric fault.
- 14 **DO NOT** use domestic plugs and sockets on construction sites, they are not robust enough.
- 15 When using 230V equipment, the risk of injury or death from electric shock is unacceptably high unless the following precautions are taken:
  - a) Use RCD power breakers at the supply socket to give protection for both the equipment and its power cable.
  - b) The RCD should be protected from dust, wet weather, mechanical damage and vibration.
  - c) Position power cables where they are less likely to be damaged.
  - d) The equipment, cables and RCDs should be checked every day (or every shift) using the following as a guide:
    - **CHECK** that bare wires are not visible
    - Make sure that cables are not damaged and are free from cuts and abrasions (apart from light scuffing)
    - **CHECK** that the plug is in good condition, the casing is free from cracks, the pins are not bent or the socket is not blocked with debris or dirt
    - **ENSURE** that there are no taped or other non-standard joints in the cable
    - **CHECK** that the cable covering has not been pulled out of the grips at the plug or equipment. (The coloured insulation of the internal wires should not be visible)
    - **CHECK** the outer casing of the equipment for damage and check for loose or missing parts or screws
    - Make sure that there are no overheating or burn marks on the plug, cable and equipment
    - **CHECK** the operation of the RCD power breaker by operating the test button.
- 16 Equipment using 110 volts should be checked weekly as in 15(d) above, but it is not necessary to carry out these checks at all for portable battery operated machines.
- 17 **CHECK** regularly that all ventilation grills are clear and free from dirt.
- 18 If the automatic cut-out operates, **ALLOW** the motor to cool before re-starting.
- 19 **DO NOT** move the machine by its cable or disconnect a plug by pulling its cable.



The UK's Leading Association for Plant & Equipment Hire Professionals

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This leaflet is one in a comprehensive series of equipment safety instructions available from the CPA