

## COMPRESSED AIR 1001

### I. PURPOSE

To establish safe procedures for using compressed air.

### II. REQUIREMENTS

- A. Compressed air used for cleaning purposes shall be reduced to less than 30 psi when the nozzle is dead-headed. One of the following two methods may be used:
- Install an approved safety diffuser nozzle designed and manufactured for this purpose.
  - Manually reduce pressure by using a gauged valve.
- B. Compressed air shall be used for operational purposes.
- C. Material being cleaned up shall never be blown toward personnel.
- D. Compressed air shall not be used to clean clothing nor shall it be directed toward any part of the body.

### III. PNEUMATIC TOOLS

- A. The manufacturer's safe operating pressure for hoses, pipes, valves, filters and other fittings shall not be exceeded.
- B. The use of hoses for hoisting or lowering tools shall not be permitted.
- C. All hoses exceeding half-inch inside diameter shall have a safety device at the source of supply or branch line to reduce pressure in case of hose failure.
- D. Only employees who have been trained in the operation of air tools shall be allowed to operate them.
- E. The air shall be shut off and bled (relieved), unless equipped with quick change connectors, before making adjustments to or changing air tools.
- F. Proper personal protective equipment shall be worn when using compressed air, such as safety glasses, hearing protection and respirators when and where necessary.

### IV. REFERENCES

OSHA standards:

- 1910.242(b): Hand and portable powered tools - compressed air used for cleaning
- 1926.302: Power operated hand tools