

HAND PLASMA CUTTER BASIC SAFETY

IF UNFAMILIAR – STOP AND ASK A MONITOR

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Eye Protection: Safety Glasses #6 Darkened Lens or a welding helmet with the appropriate shade are mandatory.
- Hand Protection: Use heat-resistant welding gloves to protect hands from burns and electric shock. Consider welding sleeves as well to protect arms from sparks.
- Body Protection: Wear flame-resistant clothing and closed-toe shoes. Avoid synthetic fabrics that can melt.
- Respiratory Protection: Wear a respirator suitable for metal fumes and particulates.

Pre-Operation Inspection

- Check the plasma cutter, cables, and torch for visible damage or wear.
- Ensure all connections are secure and hoses are free from leaks.
- Verify the Ground Clamp is clean, free of rust or paint.
- Examine the nozzle for damage, slag, cracks – clean on sanding board as needed.
- Check the table has adequate water level and solution (green color).
- Confirm the work area is free from flammable materials, liquids, or gases.

Work Area Preparation

- Be aware of traffic in the area – there are no red shielding screens at the hand-held plasma table.
- Remove all unnecessary personnel and combustible materials from the vicinity.
- Ensure proper grounding of the plasma cutter and the workpiece to prevent electric shock.

Safe Operation Procedures

- Check that any lights on the front of the unit are green.
- Set the amperage to the correct value for the material thickness and type.
- Hold the torch firmly, keeping hands and body parts away from the cutting area.
- ONLY RAISE THE TRIGGER SAFETY AND PULL THE TRIGGER WHEN THE TORCH IS ON THE METAL READY TO CUT. NEVER point the torch at someone or yourself.
- Ensure the cables do not catch on the table or other obstacles and do not become a trip hazard.

Securing and Cleanup

- Ensure the torch is clean, cables properly stowed on the hooks and the machine is off.
- Clean the work area promptly, remove leftover material.
- If problems or the equipment appears to need maintenance inform the Monitor.