

ILLUSIONS AUSTRALIA

SAFE WORK PROCEDURE

SWP 064 – PANEL SAW - HORIZONTAL

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Minimum requirements for safe operation of horizontal panel saws at Illusions Australia.

Applies to cutting sheet timber and approved panel products using the machine's guarded saw carriage/system.

2. AUTHORISATION AND COMPETENCY

Only trained, competent and authorised workers may operate the panel saw.

Operators must understand guarding, sheet support, saw carriage movement, scoring/main blades where fitted, extraction and isolation.

3. REQUIRED PPE

The following PPE must be worn as appropriate:

- Eye protection.
- Hearing protection.
- Safety footwear.
- Respiratory protection where extraction does not adequately control dust.
- Close-fitting clothing and restrained hair.

4. PRE-START CHECKS

Before commencing work, confirm that:

- Guards/interlocks and emergency stop are functional.
- Blade is correct, sharp and undamaged.
- Sheet supports, fences/stops and clamps are serviceable.
- Dust extraction is operating.
- Sheet is suitable and free of nails/screws.
- Cut dimensions and blade path are confirmed.
- Area around carriage and outfeed is clear.

5. SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

1. Plan cuts to minimise sheet handling.
2. Load sheet using team/mechanical assistance where required.
3. Position and secure sheet against supports/stops.
4. Set dimensions with saw stopped as required.
5. Start extraction.
6. Start saw and allow normal speed.
7. Operate carriage/cut using the manufacturer's designed direction and controls.

8. Keep hands outside guarded cutting zones.
9. Support cut pieces to prevent uncontrolled fall or movement.
10. Wait for blade movement to stop before reaching into the cutting area.
11. Isolate before blade changes or jam clearing.

6. PROHIBITED PRACTICES

Workers must not:

- Operate without guards/interlocks.
- Place hands in the blade path.
- Cut unsupported or unstable sheet.
- Use damaged blades.
- Reach into the cutting zone while blade/carriage is moving.
- Clear jams while energised.
- Cut material containing unknown metal/foreign objects.

7. SHEET HANDLING

Large panels can be heavy and awkward.

- Use team/mechanical assistance.
- Plan loading/unloading route.
- Keep fingers clear when positioning.

8. DUST AND BLADE ACCESS

Panel products can generate significant dust and blade access creates severe injury risk.

- Run extraction during cutting.
- Isolate before blade access.
- Use vacuum cleaning rather than compressed air.

9. FAULTS, DAMAGE AND ABNORMAL CONDITIONS

Stop for guard/interlock fault, blade damage, abnormal vibration/noise, sheet movement, carriage fault or extraction failure.

Isolate and tag out.

10. SHUTDOWN AND HOUSEKEEPING

- Switch off and wait for blade to stop.
- Isolate before close cleaning or blade work.
- Vacuum dust and remove offcuts.
- Return stops/supports safely.
- Report defects.

11. EMERGENCY AND INCIDENT RESPONSE

1. Stop the equipment or activity immediately.

2. Isolate the hazard or energy source where safe to do so.
3. Provide or obtain first aid as required.
4. Notify the Foreman, Leading Hand or other authorised Illusions Australia representative.
5. Call emergency services where required.
6. Do not recommence until the incident, defect or unsafe condition has been addressed.

12. STOP WORK REQUIREMENT

Work must stop where:

- Guard/interlock is defective.
- Sheet cannot be safely supported.
- Extraction is unavailable where required.
- Blade/material condition is unsuitable.
- Machine movement is abnormal.

No production requirement or deadline takes priority over safe work.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Document	SWP 064 – Panel Saw - Horizontal
Document Type	Safe Work Procedure
Prepared By	Aidan McDonnell
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