



Angle grinder incidents can happen in the blink of an eye. It is important to be aware of the risks associated with them.

Angle grinders are used for sanding, grinding, and cutting processes, depending on the type of disc used. When operating, the cutting or grinding disc may come into contact with a body part, or shatter and throw off pieces at extremely high speed. An operator could easily sustain cuts, abrasions, burns or eye injuries.

Recommended Preventive Action:

- Ensure workers are adequately trained to safely use grinders.
- Abrasive stones, discs, and wheels should always include complete product information so they can be used properly.
- **Always wear adequate eye and face protection**, such as a full-face shield, when using a grinder. Hearing protection, protective footwear and adequate body covering must also be worn.

- Allow newly mounted discs to run free for one minute before cutting or grinding.
- **Never apply pressure to stop a disc from spinning.**
- Ensure work items are rigidly supported.
- Do not use a cutting disc for grinding, and vice versa.
- **Position your body to reduce exposure** to flying materials and to shield yourself in case of wheel failure or kickback.
- Discs should be stored and handled carefully to avoid damage.
- **Regularly inspect angle grinders for:**
 - Correct fitting guard and handle
 - Worn out or damaged discs must be discarded
 - Damage to electrical lead or plug end
 - Disc selection: They must be suitable for the material (i.e., steel masonry, etc.), the correct size for the grinder (this includes center hole diameter), and compatibility with the grinders maximum RPM
 - Flange and flange nuts must suit the disc and be in good condition