

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Trencher

DO NOT use this machine unless you have received authorization from the Shop Coordinator



Gloves must be worn at all times.



Safety glasses must be worn at all times.



Work boots must be worn at all times.



Hearing protection must be worn.

Potential Hazards and Injuries

- Impact from equipment or roll-over
- Skin Puncture/Tear
- Eye/Face/Hand Injury

Pre-Operational Safety Checks

- Ensure tool is OFF when inspecting
- Always inspect equipment on level ground and use wheel chocks
- Ensure all guards are in place
- Ensure all parts are securely attached and safety switches are working
- Check for exposed belts, chains, shafts, and leaks
- Put on required PPE before using equipment
- Be aware of your surroundings so that you start equipment away from curbs, slabs, fences, or anything that can catch the teeth
- Keep adequate distance from others per manufacturer's recommendation
- Know location of all gas lines, water lines, electrical cables, etc. before operation
- Be sure the engine is off/idle before moving trenching at the job site

Safe Practices During Operation

- Stand to the rear of the trencher, away from the side delivery auger and digging chain when starting the engine
- Be sure the depth control is in the "0" position and move both stop switches to "ON"
- Stop trencher when equipment "hops" because of certain soil conditions or buried objects that make it difficult to cut through/lift to the surface.
- Remove object or restart trench beyond the object

- Be sure the digging chain is not turning when engine is at an idle
- Apply downward pressure to the handlebar so the digging chain is not in contact with the ground
- Increase the engine speed and hold handlebar with both hands
- Slowly relieve the downward pressure on the handlebar to allow digging chain to penetrate soil

DON'T

- Don't make sharp turns while maneuvering the machine.
- Don't go anywhere near the cutting blade/chain, as it is extremely powerful.
- Do not operate with loose fitting clothing or unsecured long hair.
- Never disconnect hydraulic lines while engine is running.
- Never operate with known leaks in hydraulics.
- Do not operate within 6 feet of other people.
- Don't operate the machine on slopes greater than 15%.
- Don't attempt to remove any lodged material from the digging chain without disengaging all moving parts and turning the machine off.
- Don't operate in confined spaces or in pits and holes where oxygen deficiency may occur.
- Never dig deeper than 1M without shoring.

SOP must be used in conjunction with an effective training program