Safety Note #2
HAND-HELD POWER TOOL SAFETY

Hand-power tools include reciprocating saws, jig saws, circular saws, belt sanders, orbital sanders, drills, hammer drills, air nailers, impact wrenches, grinders, hydraulic jacks, hedge trimmers, polishers, routers, spray guns, and soldering irons. Note: Chain saws are not included in this Safety Note - see Safety Note #9.

Employees that use hand-held power tools need to recognize the potential for these tools to cause severe injury when they are used or maintained improperly. Injuries may include vision impairment or loss, puncture wounds, electrical burns and shocks, severe cuts, contusions, and broken bones. Safe use of hand-held power tools is necessary to reduce potential hazards and injuries to employees.

General precautions for use of hand-held power tools:

- Prior to use, inspect power tool for damage or disrepair.
- Remove all damaged power tools from use by attaching a red tag that states "DO NOT USE." Complete red tag with appropriate information.
- Prior to use, always assure that power tool safety guards are in place and functioning properly.
- Always follow user's manual specifications when operating power tool.
- Never use a power tool with a frayed power cord or damaged hydraulic/air hose.
- Never carry a power tool by the power cord or hose or disconnect the power tool by yanking the power cord or hose.
- Always disconnect power tools when not using, before servicing or cleaning, and when changing accessory parts.
- Wear proper clothing for the type of power tool being used. Do not wear loose-fitting clothing or jewelry that can be caught by moving parts. Pull back long hair with a band or wear long hair under a cap.
- Wear industrial-quality safety glasses when the power tool produces flying, crumbling, chipping, sparking, or splintering debris.
- Wear an appropriate respirator when the power tool produces dust, mists, or fumes.
- Maintain power tool according to user's manual instructions, including cleaning, lubricating, and storage of the power tool.