

SAFETY ALERT

QUICK CUT SAWS

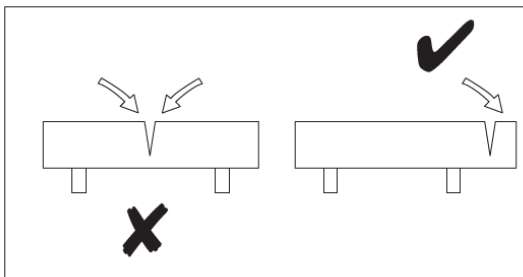


A worker was recently injured when the quick cut saw he was using to cut a concrete box culvert jammed and kicked back, injuring his upper arm.

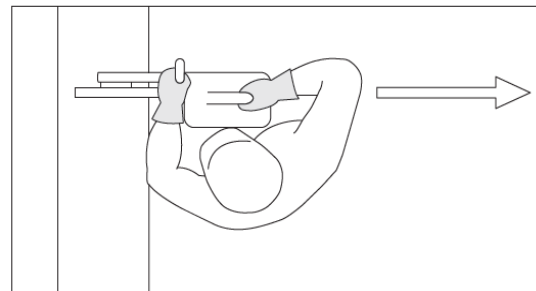
This alert reminds workers using hand-held cutting saws, in particular saws used to cut concrete storm water pipes or culverts, to avoid cutting with the upper quadrant of the blade and ensure that the object being cut does not move.

Ensure the pipes and culverts:

- are fully supported – E.g. place pipes on timber supports
- are secured so they cannot roll or slip away – E.g. chocked
- do not vibrate
- are wedged with timber wedges to prevent cut from closing.



Always be aware that the object to be cut may move or close and jam the cutting wheel.



Do not stand in line with the cutting wheel.

Operators must:

- position the saw in such a way that they are neither bending over nor standing directly behind the blade
- cut with the lower half of the blade and not the upper quarter of the blade
- wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) – E.g. mask, goggles and hearing protection.
- be trained and competent in the use of quick cut saws.