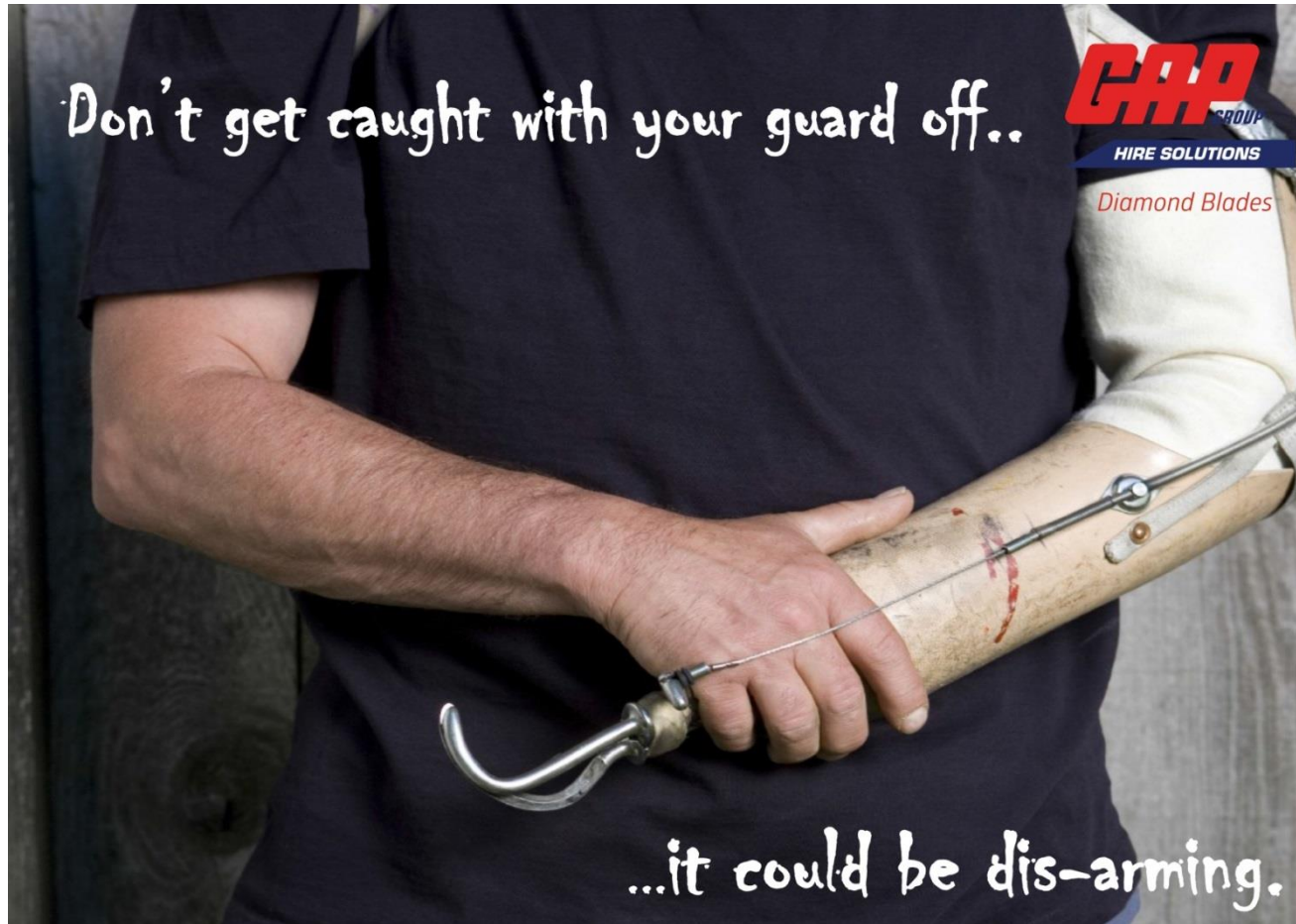


GAP Tool Box Talk: Diamond Blades



Diamond Blades & Cores

- The Abrasive Wheel Regulations 1970 have been replaced by The Provision and Use of Work Regulations 1998 (PUWER) which places a greater emphasis on the need for training and widens the scope of those who need to be trained
- The purpose of this talk is to provide you with some precautions which can be taken to prevent accidents taking place while using Diamond Blades & Cores



Before using a Diamond Blade or Core

DO

- Read the safety instructions provided by the supplier
- Ensure that the blade/core is suitable for its intended use
- Handle and store blades/cores with care
- Visually inspect and ring blades/cores before fitting
- Check mounting flanges are clean and free from burrs, they are the correct diameter and recessed where applicable (blades)
- Ensure that work rests are properly adjusted and not more than 3mm away from the periphery of the blade
- Always use a correctly designed and adjusted blade guard
- Conduct a trial run at operating speed with the guard in place for at least one minute standing clear of the machine before use
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Turn off the water supply before stopping the blade/core to avoid creating an out of balance condition

Before using a Diamond Blade or Core

DON'T

- Allow untrained personnel to mount or use diamond blades/cores
- Use a blade/core that has been dropped or damaged
- Force a blade/core onto the mounting device or modify the size of the mounting hole
- Exceed the maximum operating speed marked on the blade/core
- Stop the blade/core by applying pressure to its surface - let it stop naturally
- Apply shock or excessive force on the blade/core
- Use mounting flanges which are not clean or flat
- Tighten the mounting nut excessively
- Trap the work piece between the blade and the work rest
- Start the machine until the guards are in place and fastened securely
- Stand directly in front of the cutting wheel whenever the machine is in operation
- Cut material for which the blade/core is not designed

Personal Protective Equipment: PPE

- Operators/users of Diamond Blades or Cores should be aware of all aspects of safety and be trained in the use of the appropriate PPE
- This will safeguard their health and safety and minimise the risk of injury
- PPE such as the following should be considered:
 - Hard Hat
 - Gloves
 - Goggles
 - Ear defenders
 - Safety footwear



Regulations

Regulations that should also be considered when using Diamond Blades or Cores

- The Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1999
- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002
- The Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 1992
- Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992
- Electricity at Work Regulations 1989
- Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 1998