

Power Saw Safety

PROJECT / SITE	DATE	TALK LED BY

THE HAZARD

Indoor fit-out ramps up and the saws come with it. Kickback happens faster than anyone can react to, which is why the guard and the hand position matter more than the reflexes.

WHAT GOES WRONG

- Guard wedged, tied back or removed because it slows down repetitive cuts.
- Free hand in line with the blade, or holding a piece too small to hold safely.
- Wrong blade for the material, or a blade that is dull, chipped or warped.
- Cutting on an unstable surface, or with the offcut unsupported so it binds the blade.

CONTROLS: BEFORE YOU START

- Check the guard moves freely and returns on its own before every use.
- Keep both hands and your body out of the line of the blade and the kickback path.
- Match the blade to the material, and change it when it is dull rather than pushing harder.
- Support the work and the offcut so nothing pinches the blade mid-cut.
- Let the blade stop on its own before you set the saw down.

ASK THE CREW

1. Which saws are in use on this job and who checks the guards?
2. What are we cutting this week, and is the blade right for it?
3. Who is holding small pieces by hand instead of clamping them?
4. Has anyone had a kickback on this site? What happened?

ATTENDANCE RECORD

Everyone present signs below. This sheet is the record of the talk.

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE
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SUPERVISOR / COMPETENT PERSON	SIGNATURE