AIR BREAKER 25KG JACK HAMMER

SAFETY/RISK/HAZARD ASSESSMENT

PLANT INFORMATION

NHG Ref/Part No. \hspace{1cm} JHAB 25

Plant Name: \hspace{1cm} Atlas Copco Air Breaker 25kg

Potential Noise Level in Db: \hspace{1cm} 100db to less than 120db

Required hearing protection class: \hspace{1cm} 5

Operator Competency: \hspace{1cm} Plant Licence Not Required

It is the hirer’s responsibility to ensure that all operators are competent.

Please refer to the User Guide and Operators Manual for detailed Operating Instructions.

- Protective equipment must be worn when operating this machine.
- Operator.
- Gloves.
- Protective footwear.
- Hearing protection.
- Helmet.
RISK ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

Potential Hazard(s)

Exposure to crystalline silica (sometimes called ‘silica dust’)
Risk Level High

Exposure as a result of breaking, drilling, hammering, or other activities involving rock, concrete, asphalt or other materials may cause silicosis (a serious lung disease), silicosis-related illnesses, cancer, or death. Silica is a major component of rock, sand and mineral ores.

Control Measures to reduce silica exposure:

- Use proper engineering controls to reduce the amount of silica in the air and the build-up of dust on equipment and surfaces. Examples of such controls include: exhaust ventilation and dust collection systems, water sprays, and wet drilling. Make sure that controls are properly installed and maintained.
- Wear, maintain, and correctly use approved particulate respirators when engineering controls alone are not adequate to reduce exposure below permissible levels. Participate in air monitoring, medical exams, and training programs offered by your employer and when required by law.
- Wear washable or disposable protective clothes at the worksite; shower and change into clean clothes before leaving the worksite to reduce exposure of silica to yourself, other persons, cars, homes, and other areas.
- Do not eat, drink, or use tobacco products in areas where there is dust containing crystalline silica.
- Wash your hands and face before eating, drinking, or using tobacco products outside of the exposure area.
- Work to reduce silica exposure at your worksite.

Exposure to dust, fumes & airborne material

Risk Level High

Some dust, fumes or other airborne material created during use of the machine may contain chemicals known to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. Some examples of such chemicals are: Crystalline silica and cement and other masonry products. Arsenic and chromium from chemically-treated rubber. Lead from lead based paints.

Control Measures to reduce your exposure to these chemicals

Work in a well ventilated area, and work with approved safety equipment, such as dust masks that are specially designed to filter out microscopic particles.
**Injury from Vibration**

Risk Level: Medium/High

Normal and proper use of the machine exposes the operator to vibration.

Regular and frequent exposure to vibration may cause, contribute to, or aggravate injury or disorders to the operator’s fingers, hands, wrists, arms, shoulders and/or other body parts, including debilitating and/or permanent injuries or disorders that may develop gradually over periods of weeks, months, or years.

Such injury or disorder may include damage to the blood circulatory system, damage to the nervous system, damage to joints, and possibly damage to other body structures.

**Control Measures**

- If numbness, tingling, pain, clumsiness, weakened grip, whitening of the skin, or other symptoms occur at any time, when operating the machine or when not operating the machine, do not resume operating the machine and seek medical attention.
- Continued use of the machine after the occurrence of any such symptom may increase the risk of symptoms becoming more severe and/or permanent.
- The following may help to reduce exposure to vibration for the operator:
  - Let the tool do the job.
  - Use a minimum hand grip consistent with proper control and safe operation.
  - When the percussion mechanism is activated, the only body contact with the machine you should have is your hands on the handles.
  - Avoid any other contact, e.g. supporting any part of the body against the machine or leaning onto the machine trying to increase the feed force. It is also important not to keep the trigger engaged while extracting the tool from the broken work surface.
  - Make sure that the inserted tool is well maintained (including sharp, if a cutting tool), not worn out, and of the proper size. Insertion tools that are not well-maintained, or that are worn out, or that are not of the proper size result in longer time to complete a task (and a longer period of exposure to vibration) and may result in or contribute to higher levels of vibration exposure.
  - Immediately stop working if the machine suddenly starts to vibrate strongly. Before resuming the work, find and remove the cause of the increased vibrations.
  - Comply with the recommended air-pressure when operating the machine. Either higher or lower air-pressure has the potential of resulting in higher levels of vibration.
  - Do not grab, hold or touch the inserted tool when using the machine.
  - Participate in health surveillance or monitoring, medical exams, and training programs offered by your employer and when required by law.

**Other Injury**

Risk Level: Medium/High

**Control Measures**

- Avoid body contact with earthed or grounded surfaces, such as pipes, radiators, ranges and refrigerators.
• Visually check equipment and leads for signs of damage before operation.
• Ensure hands, feet and loose clothing are kept clear from moving parts.
• Do not remove guards or covers.
• Ensure appropriate protective equipment, including eye protection is worn whilst operating equipment.
• Do not drill into pipes, tanks or vessels that contain pressure or flammable substances.
• Do not operate equipment under the influence of alcohol, drugs, medication of fatigue.
• Beware of blades & bits which can catch, causing them to kick violently.
• Beware of debris ejected from the work piece.
• Ensure leads are stowed safely and does not present a trip hazard
• Do not overreach and maintain proper footing.

**Electrocution**

**Risk Level**
Medium/High

**Control Measures**
- Ensure equipment has a current test tag (within 3 months)
- Do not operate in wet or damp environments.
- Avoid contact with underground services – Dial Before You Dig
- Avoid body contact with earthed or grounded surfaces, such as pipes, radiators, ranges and refrigerators.
- Visually check equipment and leads for signs of damage before operation.
- It is recommended to use a safety switch with this equipment.
- Isolate power by removing from power source prior to performing any work on the equipment, including changing leads, tools or bits.

**Exposure to ultraviolet radiation if working outdoors**

**Risk Level**
Medium

**Control Measures**
Wear sunscreen, hat, long sleeves and long pants.

**Hearing Damage**

**Risk Level**
Medium

**Control Measures**
Hearing protection must be worn.
Burn hazard

Risk Level Low

Control Measures Wear protective clothing during operation.
Avoid contact with hot components.

Additional Safety Information

- Machines and accessories must only be used for their intended purpose.
- T-handle breakers weighing 15 kg or more may only be used for vertical breaking.
- Only qualified and trained persons may operate or maintain the machine.
- Learn how the machine is switched off in the event of an emergency.
- The maximum permissible air pressure for the machine must not be exceeded.
- Release the start and stop device immediately in all cases of power supply interruption.
- Always inspect the equipment prior to use.
- Do not use the equipment if you suspect that it is damaged.
- Always use your common sense and good judgment.
- Pay attention and look at what you are doing.
- Do not use the machine when you are tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol or anything else that may affect your vision, reactions or judgment.
- Participate in safety and training courses.
- Never strike or abuse any equipment.
- Keep the machine and tools in a safe place, out of the reach of children and locked up.
- Make sure that all the attached and related equipment is properly maintained.
- Signs and stickers bearing important information regarding personal safety and care of the machine should be clear and legible.
- Make sure that no unauthorized personnel trespass into the working zone.
- Keep the workplace clean and free from foreign objects.
- Never point a compressed air hose at yourself or anyone else.
- To avoid the risk of getting injured, never use compressed air to blow e.g. dust, dirt etc. from your clothes.

Please refer to the User Guide and Operators Manual for detailed Operating Instructions

The safety information contained in this assessment is general information only and should not be relied upon as a substitute for professional advice or tuition, which the hirer should seek before operating.