

Talk No: 21	Title: USE OF CARTRIDGE OPERATED TOOLS
<p>Introduction: Cartridge operated tools are potentially lethal if misused and should always be treated with respect.</p>	
<p>Main points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Cartridge operated tools, including nail guns, should only be used by properly trained persons (those issued with a certificate of authority). – Read and understand the manufacturer’s instructions prior to use and comply with them at all times. – Before handling a gun, and before putting it away, ensure it is not loaded. <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Always load with barrel pointing in safe direction (away from you and not at anyone else). – Never walk around on site with a loaded tool/gun. – Never place your hand over the end of the barrel. – Ensure cartridges are suitable for material being fired into (no too powerful) – consider a test fire. – Beware of voids in material being fired into and allow at least 75mm (3”) from edges of concrete or brickwork. – Always hold gun/tool at right angles to material being fired into – ensure splinter guard is resting on surface. – Always wear suitable PPE (eye protection and ear defenders as a minimum). – In the event of a misfire wait one minute and try again. If still a misfire, then wait a further minute prior to unloading. – Keep guns/tools well maintained and clean – never leave a gun loaded. – Cartridges are explosives and must be strictly controlled (kept under lock and key, restrict issue, account for fired cartridges and ensure unfired cartridges are returned). <p style="text-align: center;">IT’S TOO LATE TO PLAN FOR SAFETY AFTER THE ACCIDENT HAS HAPPENED!</p>	
<p>Notes:</p>	