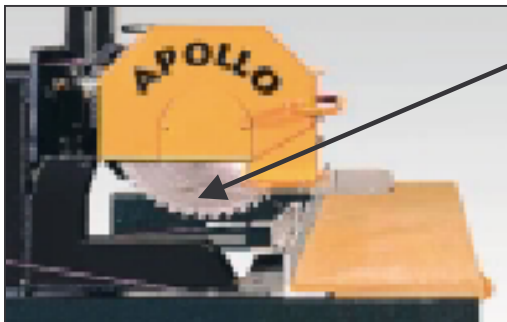


PULL SAW GUARDING REQUIREMENTS

Owners and operators of all types of manual and semi-automated pull saws supplied by Mitek Australia Ltd (formerly Gang-Nail Aust. Ltd.) are advised to read this document carefully. It contains important information concerning the control of hazards associated with pull saws. Examples of these saws include (but are not limited to) the Mangotech Apollo Saw, Spida CXM and CXTM Saws, Owens Computerised Spida Saw, and the Mitek CPP3 Saw.

HAZARD DESCRIPTION

Some of pull saws supplied by Mitek Australia Ltd (formerly Gang-Nail Australia) may not comply with the requirement of the Woodworking Machinery Standards AS 1473.2-2001 & AS1473.3-2001 (formerly AS1473-1991) for a fixed lower guard for the blade in the retracted position. (This guard normally provides a secondary function of forming part of the collection chute for the saw's dust extraction system.)



Pull Saw without a Fixed Lower Guard. Operator is exposed to increased risk of contact with blade, particularly when cutting acute angles.

Saw operators may be at greater risk of cutting injuries to fingers and hands due to contact with the rotating blade in the retracted position if this guard is missing. The hazard level is further increased with the blade set at acute angles as the exposed saw blade is closer to the saw bench.

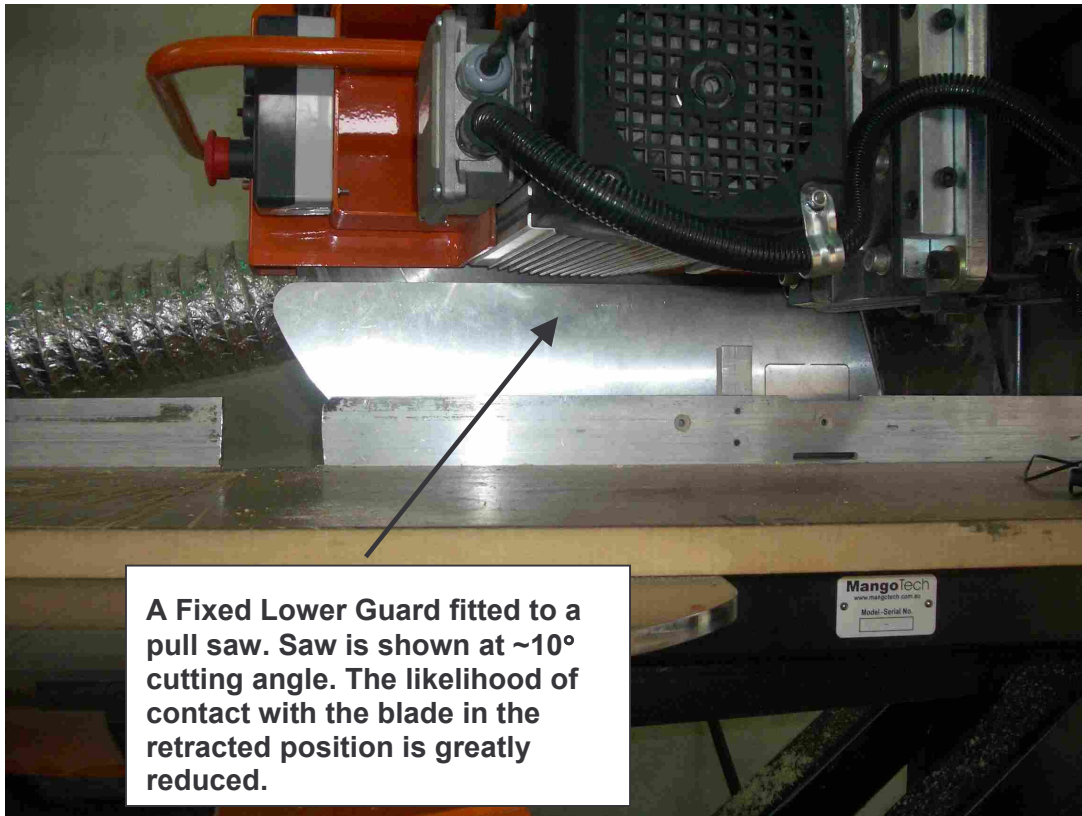


WARNING: Operators risk serious cutting injuries if this hazard is not controlled. Immediate action should be taken to control this hazard on all pull saws.

HAZARD CONTROL MEASURES

This hazard may be controlled in the following way:

- fit a lower blade guard that prevents incidental contact with the rotating blade while in the retracted position. This guard must cover as much of the blade as is practicable. It may be necessary to limit saw movement to acute angles to prevent the lower guard from hitting the saw fence.



Note that this type of guard is commonly required on cross-cutting docking saws (fixed at 90 degrees), however when fitted to pull saws, such a guard has the potential to interfere with the saw fence when cutting acute angles.

Assistance in obtaining a fixed lower blade guard is available by contacting the saw manufacturer or supplier. A risk assessment should be carried out when implementing any new guarding to ensure that any new hazards introduced by the guard are eliminated or controlled.

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

Owners of pull saws should implement the above mentioned control procedures immediately.