

NON-COMPLIANT TWO-HANDED SAW CONTROL

Owners of Spida Trussmaster 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 a hazards associated with Spida Trussmaster Saws (sold prior to the year 2000).

HAZARD DESCRIPTION

A review of Spida Trussmaster Saws supplied by Gang-Nail Australia Ltd, now Mitek Australia Ltd, indicates that the two-handed control system does not comply with the requirements of *AS4024.1 – 1996 Safeguarding of machinery Part1: General principles*.

Saw operators may risk exposure to cutting injuries when using Spida Trussmaster Saws supplied prior to 2000. These saws incorporate a two-handed control that requires the operator to press and hold both a joystick and a button to cause the saw arm to extended and cut the timber. The intention of this design is to ensure the operator's hands are not in the cutting area while the saw arm is moving.

This control system does not comply with the current requirements of AS4024.1 Clause 9.3.3 in the following areas:

- It may be possible to inadvertently or deliberately actuate the joystick control with another part of the operator's body other than his/her hand
- The controls do not require synchronous activation within 0.5 sec to allow the saw stroke action
- A single fault in the two-hand control system may cause the saw arm to extend unexpectedly.



WARNING: Operators risk serious cutting injuries if these hazards are not controlled. Immediate action should be taken to control this hazard on all Trussmaster Saws.

HAZARD CONTROL MEASURES

These hazards can be controlled in the following way:

- Review the control system and hazard identification documentation on your Trussmaster saw in light of this information, and...
- Use a qualified person to modify the saw's electrical control system to include a two-hand control system (of a suitable safety category) complying with AS4024.1.

Mitek encourage you to contact us to discuss your hazard control requirements and proposed control measures for this hazard.

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED

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

Queries regarding this Hazard Notice should be directed to Cameron Wake, Machinery Support Engineer at Mitek Australia Ltd on Ph: 03-8795-8888. Written on 18-5-2005.