

Compressed Air

COMPRESSED AIR MUST ALWAYS BE RESPECTED AND USED IN A SAFE MANNER

- Ensure that it's an air-line you have and not a gas or water line.
 - The fittings and valves should look different - Ensure that you are using the compressed air line.
- Ensure that the air hose is in good condition.
 - Inspect for weakness at bends, attachments and kinks.
 - Weak points may swell like a balloon and burst, throwing pieces of hose in every direction and also cause the hose to thrash about dangerously.
- Never apply compressed air to the skin or direct it at a person.
- Never use a compressed air hose to clean dirt or dust from your clothing or body.
 - Even air at a pressure of 15 psig can cause serious injury.
 - Air pressure can drive chips, as well as scale, from inside the piping into your face and eyes with the force of shrapnel.
 - Air pressure against the skin may penetrate deeply to cause intense pain and/or internal hemorrhage.
 - Air that enters body openings can burst internal organs and cause death.
- When using compressed air for cleaning purposes, **ensure that the pressure does not exceed 30 psig as per the OSHA regulations** and always use goggles or a face shield over approved safety glasses.
- Be sure to have a firm hold on the end of the hose as a free end can whip and cause injury.
- Wear ear protection when needed.
- Do not crimp, couple or uncouple a pressurized hose. Be sure to shut off the valves and bleed down pressure before making any hose connections.
- Do not use frayed, damaged or deteriorated hoses.
- Store hoses properly – away from heat sources or direct sunlight. Use of a hose reel can prevent damage to the hose and prolong its life.
- Keep air hoses off the floor to minimize trip hazards for you and your co-workers.

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