For guidance on managing construction health risks go to
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Hydraulic Breaker

The rules and procedures in force where people are at work may require the person responsible for this equipment to carry out a specific risk assessment.

It is important to read all of this leaflet BEFORE you use the Hydraulic Breaker

1. Plan your work and think ahead to make sure you will always be working safely.
2. Diesel fuel is flammable. Take care not to cause a fire or explosion.
3. This hydraulic breaker is designed for breaking concrete, stone, tarmac and similar surfaces.
4. The action of this hydraulic breaker can cause injury or damage if the machine is not used in a careful and controlled way.
5. If you have not used a hydraulic breaker before, familiarise yourself with the machine on some straightforward work before you start on the main task.
6. You must have at least the following items of personal protective equipment: goggles: impact resistant EN166 – B or BS2092 grade 1; ear muffs or plugs giving protection from levels up to 110 dB(A); safety boots to EN345 or BS1870/4972; Dust mask – a minimum of EN149 FFP3(s) protection; gloves.
7. This machine must not be used by minors, or by anyone under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
8. This hydraulic breaker is designed for operation by an able bodied adult. Anyone with either temporary or permanent disability must seek expert advice before using it.

WORK AREA

1. Do not use this power pack where there is a danger of explosion. It will ignite fumes from petrol, or gas cylinders.
2. Using this equipment indoors or in confined spaces could cause **fatal** carbon monoxide poisoning. **Never** use it in domestic premises and only use it in other indoor situations if its suitability and the ventilation required has been **fully** assessed. Mechanical extraction ventilation will almost always be required.
3. Make sure that the area is clear and safe and that no-one is near to you or could distract you.

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WORK AREA *(...Continued)*

4. Protect other people from the noise, debris and dust. Warn others to keep away, put barriers around your work area.
5. The hydraulic breaker may damage pipes or cables buried under the surface.

OPERATORS

1. The following items of personal protective equipment (ppe) are the minimum that should be worn whenever you use this hydraulic breaker. Particular jobs or environments may require a higher level of protection.
2. You must wear impact resistant goggles (EN166 – B or BS2092 grade 1) when you are working with this hydraulic breaker.
3. This hydraulic breaker is likely to cause noise levels up to 110 dB(A) – wear appropriate ear muffs or plugs giving hearing protection for this level as a minimum.
4. You must wear safety boots (EN345 or BS1870/4972).
5. Anybody who is working near to you will also need to wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

HYDRAULIC BREAKER

1. Check all your equipment, including hoses, power pack and the breaker. Do not use anything found damaged - contact the hire company.
2. Check that the hoses have no cuts, abrasions, or bulges in them.
3. Check that the quick release, self-sealing hose couplings are clean before connecting them.
4. Check that the power pack is sited firmly and safely near to your work area.
5. Check engine oil and fuel levels each day before starting work. Check levels more often if the breaker is used continuously.
6. The flow control lever should be set to 'max' position while working.
7. In cold weather let the machine warm up before starting work.
8. Always grip the hydraulic breaker correctly with two hands while working.
9. This breaker must only be used in a position below waist height; it is too heavy for any other use.
10. Vibration from using this hydraulic breaker can be hazardous. Warm your hands up before you start work, and wear gloves to keep your hands warm while you are working.
11. Make sure that you understand all of the controls. Before you start the machine, you must know how to stop it.

ACCESSORIES

1. Switch off the power pack before you change a tool bit.
2. This breaker can only use the tool bits specifically for it. Do not use any other bits.
3. The tool bit shank should be clean and lightly oiled before insertion into the breaker.
4. Do not attempt to uncouple the hydraulic hoses while the system is pressurised. Stop the engine and release the pressure by moving the flow control lever to minimum and squeezing the trigger on the breaker.
5. Do not allow the disconnected hydraulic hose couplings to become dirty, keep them clean.

REFUELLING

1. No smoking.
2. Stop the engine and let it cool down.
3. If possible move the machine away from your work area.
4. Clean the filler cap and the area around it to –prevent dirt falling into the fuel tank.
5. Use a funnel and clean diesel when refuelling. Do not spill any fuel on yourself or the machine.
6. Wipe any fuel off the machine. Dispose of fuel soaked cloth carefully.
7. If you spill any fuel on the ground, wipe it up or cover it with soil.
8. If you spill any fuel on your clothes, change them straight away.
9. Put all fuel caps back on properly, and move your fuel can to a safe, cool place.

STARTING THE ENGINE

Electric start

1. The START/STOP switch, the cold start device, and the starter motor switch may all be incorporated into one control switch, or they each may have their own controls. Find these controls and check how each one works before you continue.
2. Check the oil and fuel levels before you try to start the engine.
3. If the machine has a fuel valve, open it.
4. Set the flow control lever on the operating panel to 'MIN' position.
5. Set the START/STOP switch to START and engage the cold start device for about twenty seconds then engage the starter.
6. If the engine fails to start after a few seconds look to see if there is any smoke coming from the exhaust. If there is, try repeating the start procedure but operate the cold start device for a little longer.
7. If the engine is warm, there is no need to use the cold start device. Just engage the starter.
8. Stop the engine by moving the RUN/STOP control to STOP.

Hand start

1. Other diesel-engined power packs need to started by hand. This can be hazardous, take care.
2. If the machine has a fuel valve, open it.
3. Move the engine RUN/STOP control to the RUN position.
4. Set the flow control lever on the operating panel to 'MIN' position.
5. Stand by the engine and find the starting handle and the decompression lever.
6. Do not wear gloves when you start the engine. Also, make sure that you have no loose clothing or flapping sleeves that could become entangled.
7. Fit the starting handle to the shaft, and check by turning it anti-clockwise that the ratchet mechanism works. Check also that the handle slides on and off the shaft easily.
8. Move the decompression lever into the decompression position.
9. If the engine is fitted with a cold start button, press it in when starting from cold.
10. Grasp the starting handle firmly in one hand – but do not wrap your thumb around the handle. Keep it on the same side as your fingers – this is very important. Your thumb could be broken if you wrap it around the handle, and the engine kicks back.
11. Crank the engine strongly before lowering the decompression lever smoothly. The engine should fire up. If it doesn't, go through the steps again from instruction 15 above.
12. If the engine is now running, slide the handle off the shaft. Slow the handle safely.

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Before Starting Work...

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