

# CFMEU SAFETY GUIDANCE

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## Brick Saws

Safety Committees must ensure that all brick saws on site are fitted with a noise reducing blade.

### Setting Up

Brick saws should be set in an isolated area and be semi enclosed with screens (min 1800mmm high at the back and on both sides.

Be positioned on site convenient to water and power and have a bin placed adjacent to place any off-cuts and waste into it.

Make sure the electrical leads are not exposed to water and that signs denoting appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and “authorised personnel only”, are displayed.



### Authorised Persons

Only authorised adequately trained persons should use brick saws. Training should include the correct method of operating the saw, the need for PPE and the correct fitment and use of PPE.

### Silica Dust

All bricks contain silica dust and care should be taken to ensure that no free silica is released during the cutting process only wet cutting of bricks is allowed.

### Cleaning

Once again because of the problem of free silica brick saws and the work area surrounding the saw should be cleaned daily and all waste disposed of correctly. Saw beds should be kept clean to prevent sludge and water spillage.

A water recycle system should be established e.g., a drum and small pump.

### Health

Prolonged inhalation (breathing) of silica dust will cause silicosis (a serious and debilitating lung disease eventually leading to death).

REPORT UNSAFE WORK PRACTICES - CALL (08) 9228 6900 OR EMAIL [SAFETY@CFMEUWA.COM](mailto:SAFETY@CFMEUWA.COM)

**Stand up. Speak out. Come home.**