

1973/85



THE WOODWORKING MACHINERY REGULATIONS 1973

DENIS BLUNDELL, Governor-General
ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Government Buildings at Wellington this 26th day of March 1973

Present:

THE HON. N. E. KIRK PRESIDING IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to the Machinery Act 1950, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following regulations.

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REGULATIONS

1. **Title and commencement**—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Woodworking Machinery Regulations 1973.

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the day after the date of their notification in the *Gazette*.

2. **Interpretation**—In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,—

“Band re-saw” means a machine that is used to re-cut flitches or timber, and is equipped with automatic feed rollers, and is fitted with a blade in the form of a continuous band or strap, the cutting portion of which blade moves in a vertical or horizontal plane; but does not mean a log band breakdown saw or a narrow blade band saw:

“Breast bench” means a machine that is fitted with a circular saw, and is used to reduce flitches from the log breakdown to smaller dimension timber when the flitches are fed manually past the saw with or without the assistance of horizontal live feed and return rollers:

“Cutter” includes a saw blade, chain cutter, knife, loose cutter, solid cutter, or boring bit:

“Edger” means a machine that is used for ripping sawn timber or sawing the edges of timber, and is fitted with 2 or more circular rip-saws mounted on a common arbor or mounted separately at fixed spacing, and is also fitted with a device or devices to vary the width between the saws; but does not mean a multiple circular saw that is used for trimming panels, and is fitted with riving knives and hood guards:

“Frame saw” means a machine that is used for sawing logs or for resawing timber by using one or more straight rip-saw blades mounted vertically in a sash that reciprocates in vertical slides on a frame:

“Log band breakdown saw” means a log breakdown saw that is fitted with a blade in the form of a continuous band or strap with continuous series of notches or teeth on one or both edges of the band and running over a pair of wheels or pulleys that are mounted either vertically or horizontally:

“Log breakdown saw” means a machine that is used for reducing logs to flitches or sawn timber:

“Log carriage” means a carriage that is used for conveying logs into a log breakdown saw:

“Narrow blade band saw” means a machine that is fitted with a blade in the form of a continuous band or strap running in a vertical direction; but does not mean a band re-saw or a log band breakdown saw:

“Overhand planing” means the planing or smoothing of the surface of material that is passed over cutters:

“Planing machine” means a machine that is used either for overhand planing or for thicknessing or for both operations:

“Woodworking machine” means—

(a) A band re-saw, borer, chipper, circular saw, profile copying machine, debarker, edger, frame saw, log band saw, log carriage, mortising machine, moulder, narrow blade band saw, planing machine, router, sander, tenoner, trencher, or wood turning machine:

(b) Any machine designed to be fitted with a cutter and used either for—

(i) Breaking down a log to boards; or

(ii) The further processing of sawn timber, wood, wood products, fibre board, or any other material used in place of wood in the building, construction, joinery, or furniture manufacturing industry.

General Requirements as to Construction of Woodworking Machines

3. Machines to be free from dangerous vibration—Every wood-working machine shall be so constructed and maintained as to be free from dangerous vibration when any cutter is correctly mounted on it and is run idle at full speed.

4. Tables to be true and even—The working table of every wood-working machine shall have a true and even surface.

5. Power controls—(1) Every woodworking machine shall be fitted with an efficient mechanical or electrical power control of a type that prevents inadvertent starting. The control shall be placed in a position where it can be readily and conveniently operated by the person using the machine.

(2) Where the control so fitted is not visible to or within reach of any person cleaning, adjusting, or maintaining the machine at all times while he is so engaged, the machine—

- (a) Shall be provided with a control locking device or devices to prevent inadvertent starting; or
- (b) Shall be capable of being rendered for the time being inoperative by the isolation of the motor circuit.

(3) Where, at the date of commencement of these regulations, an existing woodworking machine does not have a separate power control, subclause (1) of this regulation shall not apply in respect of that machine until the expiration of 1 year after that date.

6. Control of moving parts—Where a woodworking machine is so designed or constructed that the moving parts may continue to move after the power has been switched off, and any person could be endangered by that continuance of movement, the machine shall be fitted with—

- (a) An efficient braking device that will bring the moving parts to rest within the shortest practicable time after the power is switched off; or
- (b) A guard or cover over the moving parts.

7. Security of adjustable parts—Every cutter and every other adjustable part of a woodworking machine shall be so constructed and fitted as to ensure that they are kept securely in position during the operation of the machine.

8. Sliding bench tops—Where a woodworking machine is designed or constructed to be fed by a sliding bench top—

- (a) Permanent stops shall be fitted to the machine to limit the travel of the bench top; and
- (b) Suitable means shall be fitted to the machine to prevent any inadvertent tilting of the bench top; and
- (c) If the bench top is operated by hand, it shall be fitted with secure hand holds for the operator.

9. Design of guards and anti-kick back devices—Every guard and every anti-kick back device required by these regulations for a woodworking machine shall be so designed, constructed, maintained, and used that they will—

- (a) Be suitable for the process and the machine; and
- (b) Be adjustable where necessary to conform to different sizes of material being machined; and
- (c) Resist normal wear and shock; and

- (d) Be suitable to withstand the atmospheric conditions in which they are used; and
 (e) Not constitute hazards in themselves; and
 (f) Be adequately and rigidly secured.

10. Construction and position of guards—(1) Every guard required by these regulations for a woodworking machine shall be made of metal casting, sheet metal, perforated metal, woven wire, or other suitable material.

(2) Where a guard is made of perforated material or woven wire, the size of any openings in the guard and the minimum clearance between the guard and the moving parts shall be in accordance with the following scale:

Size of Mesh		Minimum clearance between guard and part to be guarded
Square	Other shapes (maximum diagonal measurement)	
Not exceeding $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6.350 mm)	$\frac{3}{8}$ inch (9.525 mm)	1 inch (25.400 mm)
Over $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6.350 mm) and up to and including $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (12.700 mm)	$\frac{1}{2}$ inch (19.050 mm)	2 inches (50.800 mm)
Over $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (12.700 mm) and up to and including $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (38.100 mm)	$2\frac{1}{8}$ inches (53.975 mm)	4 inches (101.600 mm)

(3) Except as provided in subclause (2) of regulation 28 of these regulations, where a guard is made of slotted material or where there are any slotted openings in a guard, the minimum clearance between the guard or the openings and the moving parts shall be in accordance with the following scale:

Maximum width of opening	Minimum clearance between guard and part to be guarded
$\frac{1}{4}$ inch (6.350 mm)	1 inch (25.400 mm)
$\frac{1}{2}$ inch (12.700 mm)	2 inches (50.800 mm)
$\frac{3}{8}$ inch (15.875 mm)	$3\frac{3}{8}$ inches (95.250 mm)
$\frac{1}{2}$ inch (19.050 mm)	5 inches (127.000 mm)
$\frac{5}{8}$ inch (22.225 mm)	$6\frac{1}{4}$ inches (158.750 mm)
1 inch (25.400 mm)	$7\frac{1}{2}$ inches (190.500 mm)
$1\frac{1}{8}$ inches (28.575 mm)	$8\frac{3}{4}$ inches (222.250 mm)
$1\frac{1}{4}$ inches (31.750 mm)	10 inches (254.000 mm)

11. Cutters—(1) Where 2 or more cutters for different operations are mounted on a woodworking machine, provision shall be made to prevent the movement of every cutter which is not being used for any operation.

(2) This regulation shall not apply to a cutter that is guarded so as to prevent accidental contact by any person with the cutter, or is mounted in such a position as to prevent danger to every person employed or working on the premises in which the machine is situated.

General Operating Rules

12. Efficiency of protective devices and appliances—(1) Every guard or other protective device or appliance provided in respect of a woodworking machine shall be maintained in an efficient condition.

(2) Every guard or other protective device or appliance (except a push stick or other stick) provided in respect of a woodworking machine shall always be kept in position and in correct adjustment while the machine is in motion.

13. Machines to be turned off before cleaning—(1) Where a control provided with a locking device or devices to prevent inadvertent starting is fitted to a woodworking machine in accordance with regulation 5 of these regulations, every person who cleans, adjusts, or maintains the machine shall, before doing such work, use the locking devices provided so as to render the machine inoperative, and during such work shall personally retain the key to each of those locking devices.

(2) Where the power control fitted to a woodworking machine in accordance with subclause (1) of regulation 5 of these regulations is not visible to or within reach of any person cleaning, adjusting, or maintaining the machine at all times while he is so engaged, and the machine is not provided with a control locking device or devices in accordance with subclause (2) of that regulation, every person who cleans, adjusts, or maintains the machine shall on every occasion before he does such work sign, date, and attach to the machine in a conspicuous place a clearly visible warning notice to the effect that such work is being carried out.

(3) No person other than the person by whom a warning notice is attached to a machine under subclause (2) of this regulation shall remove the notice from the machine:

Provided that where that person is not available and the manager or foreman of the premises in which the machine is operated is satisfied that no person is engaged in such work or is in the machine, the manager or foreman may remove the notice.

(4) Notwithstanding subclause (3) of this regulation, no person shall remove a warning notice from a woodworking machine unless he first signs and dates the notice.

(5) Every warning notice required under this regulation shall comply with the requirements, if any, of an Inspector.

14. Operating speeds—No woodworking machine shall be driven at any unsafe speed. Where a working speed is recommended by the manufacturer of the machine, the machine shall not be driven in excess of that speed.

15. Machines to be used only if in good order—No person shall use a woodworking machine that is not in good working order and condition.

16. Free running machines to be guarded—Except during normal operation, no woodworking machine shall be allowed to run idle unless the moving parts of the machine are guarded in accordance with these

regulations, or are in such a position or of such construction as to be as safe to every person employed or working on the premises in which the machine is operated as they would be if they were so guarded.

17. Removal of waste—(1) No person shall manually remove sawdust, chips, or waste from any dangerous part of a woodworking machine unless the machine is stopped, and the cutters have come to rest, and the machine is secured against inadvertent starting.

(2) Nothing in this regulation shall prohibit the use of push sticks or other sticks in accordance with regulations 29 and 43 of these regulations.

18. Maintenance of cutters—Every cutter of a woodworking machine shall at all times be maintained in good condition free from defects, and be kept perfectly regular, and be correctly sharpened and set.

19. Support of material—(1) Where the length of the material being fed by hand into a woodworking machine is greater than $1\frac{3}{4}$ times the distance between the front edge of the cutter and the outfeed edge of the machine table, the timber shall be adequately supported at the outfeed end during the machine operation.

(2) This regulation shall not apply where the material being fed is less than 5 feet (1.524 metres) in length, or where the "end to end" method of sawing timber referred to in subclause (5) of regulation 43 of these regulations is used.

Log Breakdown Saws

20. Prevention of inadvertent starting—Every log breakdown saw shall be so designed and constructed that, if any adjustment is to be made to a log, baulk, or flitch at any place where the person carrying out the adjustment could accidentally come into contact with the moving saw blade, the machine can first be stopped and secured against inadvertent starting.

21. Water control valves—Every water control valve on a log breakdown saw shall be positioned so that it shall be readily and conveniently operated without danger from the saw blade or any other dangerous part of the machine.

22. Wheels on log band breakdown saws—(1) The lower wheel of every vertical log band breakdown saw shall be enclosed.

(2) The front, back, and periphery of the upper wheel of every vertical log band breakdown saw shall be fitted with guards that will prevent any person from being able to come into contact with the saw blade from the working platform. The guards shall be constructed so as to retain the saw blade if it comes off while the machine is in motion.

(3) Nothing in subclause (2) of this regulation shall prohibit the fitting of sight holes if they are placed beyond reach from the working platform.

(4) Every wheel of a horizontal log band breakdown saw shall be fitted with guards that will prevent any person from being able to come

into contact with the saw blade from the working platform. The guards shall be constructed so as to retain the saw blade if it comes off while the machine is in motion.

23. Saw blades on log band breakdown saws—The return portion of the saw blade between the wheels of every log band breakdown saw shall be enclosed by guards.

24. Working platforms for log carriages—The working platform of every log carriage other than a riderless carriage shall be suitably decked.

Breast Benches

25. Breast benches to have riving knives—(1) Every breast bench shall be fitted with a riving knife.

(2) The riving knife shall be mounted behind and maintained in true alignment with the saw blade, and shall—

- (a) Be made of steel having a smooth surface; and
- (b) Be of a quality suitable for the purpose for which the riving knife is being used; and
- (c) Be, at its greatest thickness, not less than the thickness of the saw blade but less than the thickness of the saw kerf, with the leading edge bevelled to provide a lead to passing material; and
- (d) Have a minimum width at bench level of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches (63.500 mm); and
- (e) Extend from bench level to the top of the saw blade and be curved at the leading edge to conform substantially to the shape of the saw blade; and
- (f) Be adjustable so that the clearance between the riving knife and the saw blade is kept to a maximum of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (38.100 mm) at the bench level; and
- (g) Be firmly secured at bench level, and tensioned above the saw blade.

26. Splash boards for breast bench saws—An effective splash board shall be fitted over and in front of every breast bench saw blade.

27. Fences for breast benches—(1) Every breast bench shall be fitted with an effective fence.

(2) The fence shall extend at least 6 inches (152.400 mm) in front of the feed in edge of the saw blade at bench level. The measurement of 6 inches (152.400 mm) shall be taken when the bench is fitted with the maximum size of saw blade for that bench.

(3) Where the fence is operated manually, it shall be in such a position that it can be readily and conveniently operated with safety by—

- (a) A pin boy;
- (b) A bench man.

28. Underbench enclosures for breast benches—(1) The underside of every breast bench shall be enclosed unless the segment of the saw blade below the bench is otherwise adequately guarded.

(2) Nothing in subclause (1) of this regulation shall prohibit the provision of one elongated opening not exceeding 3 inches (76.200 mm) in width in one side of the enclosure for the purpose of inspecting the underside of the breast bench.

29. Sticks for removal of waste from breast benches—(1) A suitable stick shall be provided at every breast bench for the purpose of removing waste material and other debris from the bench top.

(2) No person shall remove waste material or other debris from the bench top of a breast bench except by means of a stick provided in accordance with subclause (1) of this regulation.

(3) If waste material or other debris becomes lodged between the bench and the saw blade, the machine shall be stopped and secured against inadvertent starting before the waste material or other debris is removed.

Frame Saws

30. Prevention of falls—Every frame saw shall be so designed, constructed, or fitted as to prevent—

(a) The inadvertent descent of the frame; and

(b) The falling of elevated pressure rollers—
while maintenance work (including the inserting, changing, or sharpening of any saw blade) is being carried out.

31. Guards for frame saws—Every dangerous part of the cranks, crank pulleys, flywheels, connecting rods, driving gear, and sprockets and chains on a frame saw shall be guarded unless it is safe by position or construction.

32. Power-driven carriages—Every power-driven carriage that is used for feeding logs or timber to a frame saw shall be fitted with—

(a) Devices that will hold the logs or timber firmly while they are passing through the saw blades; and

(b) Wheel guards and scrapers in front of the carriage wheels.

Band Re-saws

33. Application of regulations 21 to 23—Regulations 21, 22, and 23 of these regulations shall apply to band re-saws as they apply to log band breakdown saws.

34. Saw blades on band re-saws—The working side of the saw blade of every band re-saw shall be guarded between the guide and any upper band wheel that is within reach from the working level.

Edgers

35. Guards for edgers—(1) Every edger shall be fitted with a metal cover to form a guard over the saw blades. The guard shall extend at the sides of the machine to bench level.

(2) No opening at the feed in or tail out end of an edger shall be any larger than is necessary for the passage of timber.

36. Feed rollers on edgers—Every edger shall be fitted, on the operator's side of the feed roller, with anti-kick back fingers or some other suitable device. The fingers or other device shall extend the full width of the feed in opening and shall be so designed and constructed as to prevent, as far as is practicable, the accidental ejection of any material from the machine while it is in motion.

37. Pressure rollers for edgers—No pressure roller of an edger shall be raised while material is being fed to the saw blade.

Circular Saws

38. Circular saws to have riving knives—(1) Every circular saw that is used for ripping shall be fitted with a riving knife.

(2) The riving knife shall be mounted behind the saw blade, and shall—

- (a) Be of steel having a smooth surface; and
- (b) Be of a quality suitable for the purpose for which a riving knife is used; and
- (c) Be bevelled towards the leading edge; and
- (d) Be, at its greatest thickness, not less than the thickness of the saw blade but less than the thickness of the saw kerf; and
- (e) Be curved at the leading edge to conform to the shape of the saw blade; and
- (f) Be set at the back within $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (12.700 mm) of the teeth of the saw blade at bench level; and
- (g) Be mounted and maintained in true alignment with the saw blade; and
- (h) Where fitted to a saw with a diameter of less than 24 inches (609.600 mm), extend upwards from the bench table to within 1 inch (25.400 mm) of the top of the saw blade; and
- (i) Where fitted to a saw with a diameter of 24 inches (609.600 mm) or more, extend upwards from the bench table to a height of at least 9 inches (228.600 mm); and
- (j) Be firmly secured and capable of adjustment.

(3) This regulation shall not apply to a breast bench saw, log break-down saw, or edger, or to a saw that is used only for tenoning, rebating, or crosscutting.

39. Underbench enclosures for circular saws—The underside of every circular saw bench (other than a breast bench) shall be enclosed unless the segment of the saw blade below the bench is otherwise adequately guarded.

40. Hood guards for circular saws—(1) Except as provided in sub-clause (2) of this regulation, every circular saw shall be fitted with an easily adjustable hood guard so arranged that the portion of the saw blade and the spindle nut above the material being cut are at all times covered on the top and both sides to below the roots of the teeth.

(2) If an Inspector is satisfied that the fitting of a hood guard to a circular saw or the adjustment of the hood guard of a circular saw is impracticable, the owner shall make alternative provision to the satisfaction of the Inspector.

(3) Subclauses (1) and (2) of this regulation shall not apply to a circular saw that is in such a position or is of such construction as to be as safe to every person operating it, and to every person employed or working on the premises in which it is operated, as it would be if it were fitted with a hood guard.

(4) This regulation shall not apply to a log breakdown saw, breast bench saw, or edger, or to a saw that is used only for tenoning or rebating.

41. Circular saws for tenoning and rebating—Every circular saw that is used only for tenoning or rebating shall be fitted with guards or devices suitable to protect persons during that process.

42. Crosscut circular saws—(1) Every crosscut circular saw that is fed into material being worked shall—

- (a) Be enclosed, while in a non-operating position, in such a manner as to prevent accidental contact by any person with the moving parts of the saw; and
- (b) Be fitted with limiting devices where necessary to prevent the saw blade from moving beyond the edge of the bench nearest to the operator; and
- (c) Whenever the saw is released by the operator at any point of its travel, either remain at that point or return automatically to its non-operating position; and
- (d) Be fitted with an adequate device to prevent the saw from rebounding; and
- (e) Where operated by hand, be provided with operating hand grips; and
- (f) Where operated by foot, have the pedal covered by an effective guard or fitted with an effective locking device and have sufficient clearance for the operator's foot between the top of the pedal and the guard.

(2) A crosscut circular saw shall be deemed to comply with the requirements of regulation 40 of these regulations that the hood guard be adjustable if it is fitted with an adjustable frontal guard.

(3) Where a crosscut circular saw with a fixed hood guard is used for cutting slabs or docking the unfinished ends of timber in a continuous process, it shall be deemed to comply with the requirement of regulation 40 of these regulations that the hood guard be adjustable if—

- (a) The hood guard is arranged so as to cover the saw above the largest size of timber being cut; and
- (b) No operating hand grip required by subclause (1) of this regulation is placed in front of the saw; and
- (c) The operator stands on the side on which the hand grip (if a hand grip is required) is fitted and also feeds the material to the saw from that side.

(4) Subclause (1) of this regulation shall also apply where dado heads or cutters for grooving or moulding are fitted to the arbors of a circular saw that is fed into the material being worked.

43. Push sticks to be provided at circular saw benches—(1) Except in the case of a breast bench saw, a suitable push stick shall be provided

and kept available for use at every circular saw bench on which timber is being controlled by hand. The push stick shall be readily identifiable as such.

(2) The push stick shall be used to exert feeding pressure throughout the cutting process on any material that is being ripped and is not more than 12 inches (304.800 mm) in length.

(3) The push stick shall also be used to exert feeding pressure on any material that is being ripped and is more than 12 inches (304.800 mm) in length, while the last 12 inches (304.800 mm) of the material is being cut.

(4) The push stick shall also be used to remove material from the vicinity of the saw blade. Where waste material becomes lodged between the table and the saw blade, the machine shall be stopped and secured against inadvertent starting before that material is removed.

(5) Subclause (3) of this regulation shall not apply where the "double cut" or "end to end" method is used, if the timber is turned before the last 12 inches (304.800 mm) has been reached.

(6) Subclause (4) of this regulation shall not apply if the saw has returned to and is in a safe position behind the fence or below the bench.

Narrow Blade Band Saws

44. Guards for narrow blade band saws—Every narrow blade band saw wheel, and the return portion of the blade between the wheels of every narrow blade band saw, shall be enclosed by guards. The working side of the blade between the upper band wheel and the surface of the material being cut shall be guarded.

Planing Machines

45. Cutter blocks for overhand planing machines—Every planing machine that is used for overhand planing shall be fitted with a cylindrical cutter block.

46. Cutter block guards for overhand planing machines—Every planing machine that is used for overhand planing shall be fitted with a strong, efficient, and easily adjustable guard for the part of the cutter block that is behind the fence.

47. Bridge guards—(1) Every planing machine used for overhand planing shall be fitted with a bridge guard that is—

(a) Strong and rigid; and

(b) Constructed so as to be capable of easy adjustment both in a vertical and horizontal direction.

(2) The bridge guard shall be capable of covering both the maximum length and $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the maximum breadth of the cutting slot in the bench.

(3) The bridge guard shall be mounted on the machine centrally over the cutter block and shall be so constructed and fitted as to prevent the guard from being accidentally displaced from that position.

(4) In respect of planing machines that are first used at any time before the expiration of a period of 1 year after the date of commencement of these regulations, subclause (2) of this regulation shall have effect as if the words " $1\frac{1}{2}$ times" were omitted from that subclause.

48. Table openings—(1) The table of every planing machine used for overhand planing shall be so designed and constructed as to be capable of adjustment to make the clearances between the cutter edges and the front edge of the feed and delivery tables as small as is practicable.

(2) No overhand planing machine shall be used unless it has been first adjusted in accordance with subclause (1) of this regulation.

49. Push blocks for planing machines—A suitable push block fitted with a pressure shoulder and hand grips shall be provided on every planing machine and used if—

- (a) The wider surface of any material that is 18 inches (457.200 mm) or less in length is being planed; and
- (b) The work cannot be done by passing the material under the guard.

50. Combined machines used for planing and thickening—The part of the cutter block of a combined planing and thickening machine that is within the slot of the table top shall, when the machine is used for thickening, be effectively guarded.

51. Anti-kick back devices—(1) Every machine used for thickening shall be fitted on the operator's side of the feed roller with a suitable device, which shall extend the full width of the opening and which shall be so designed and constructed as to prevent, as far as is practicable, the accidental ejection of any workpiece from the machine.

(2) Where a machine has been sold or let on hire before the date of commencement of these regulations, this regulation shall not apply until the expiration of a period of 2 years after that date.

Vertical Spindle Moulding Machines

52. Guards for vertical spindle moulding machines—Every spindle and every cutter of a vertical spindle moulding machine shall be provided with a cage guard or other effective guard. Any such cage guard shall extend at least 2 inches (50.800 mm) beyond the sweep of the largest cutter.

53. Jigs or holders—Where the nature of the work being done at a vertical spindle moulding machine is such that it is impracticable to provide a guard for the machine in accordance with regulation 52 of these regulations, guards shall be provided for the spindle and cutter at the rear of the fence unless those parts are safe by position; and the machine shall also be provided with—

- (a) A jig or holder so designed and constructed as to hold firmly the material being moulded, and having suitable hand holds that afford the operator a firm grip; or
- (b) An automatic feeding device.

54. Cutters for vertical spindle moulding machines—The cutters of every vertical spindle moulding machine shall be so designed and secured in position as to prevent them from flying out of the head.

55. Back stops—(1) Where the work being done at a vertical spindle moulding machine is work in which the cutting of the material commences otherwise than at the end of a surface of that material, the trailing end of the material shall be supported by a suitable back stop to prevent the material being thrown back when the cutters first make contact with it.

(2) Subclause (1) of this regulation shall not apply where a jig or holder fitted in accordance with regulation 53 of these regulations is being used.

56. Spikes and push sticks—Where the nature of the work being performed at a vertical spindle moulding machine is such that the use of a suitable spike or push stick would assist the work to be done more safely, such a spike or push stick shall be provided and kept available at the machine for use.

Mortising Machines

57. Guards for mortising machines—Every chain mortising machine shall be fitted with telescoping guards covering the sprocket wheel and the chain down to the top surface of the material to be machined.

Routing Machines

58. Guards for routing machines—Every portion of a routing machine cutter that is exposed above the material being worked shall be guarded on the front and on both sides.

59. Jigs and routing boards—Except where the material is secured to the working table and moved by mechanical means, or where the material is sufficiently large enough to provide safe hand holds, a jig or routing board equipped with safe hand holds shall be provided at every routing machine, and shall be used for holding the material to be worked.

Sanding Machines

60. Belt sanding machines—(1) Every belt sanding machine shall be fitted with guards that—

- (a) Guard both pulleys; and
- (b) Effectively guard the inrunning nips between the belt and pulleys; and
- (c) Prevent accidental contact by any person with the edges of the return run of the belt.

(2) Notwithstanding subclause (1) of this regulation, when the curved surface of the sanding belt over the pulley is being used to work any material, the periphery of the pulley guard may be removed so as to enable that particular operation to be carried out, but only for the duration of that operation.

61. Disc sanding machines—Every disc sanding machine shall be fitted with guards enclosing the revolving disc except the part of the working side that is left unclosed to enable the application of the material to be worked.

62. Horizontal disc sanding machine tables—Where a table is used on a horizontal spindle disc sanding machine—

- (a) Every moving part below the plane of the table shall be enclosed; and
- (b) Above the table the peripheries, the backs, and as much as is practicable of the working faces of the discs shall be enclosed; and
- (c) The spaces between the revolving discs and the edges of the table shall not be greater than $\frac{1}{8}$ inch (3.175 mm).

63. Drum and wide belt sanding machines—(1) Every single drum sanding machine, every multiple drum sanding machine, and every wide belt sanding machine shall be fitted with guards enclosing the revolving drums or wide belt, as the case may be, except the parts of any such drums or wide belt that are left unclosed to enable the application of the material to be worked.

(2) Every multiple drum sanding machine and every wide belt sanding machine shall be fitted on the operator's side of the feed roller with a suitable device designed and constructed so as to prevent, as far as is practicable, the accidental ejection of any workpiece from the machine while it is in motion.

(3) Every drum sanding machine and every wide belt sanding machine that has the drum or belt below the surface of the table and is mechanically fed, shall have a suitable adjustable guard fitted on the operator's side of the feed roller to prevent workpieces from being fed to the machine on top of each other, and the guard shall be adjusted to the thickness of the workpiece being fed.

(4) In the case of a machine manufactured before the date of commencement of these regulations, this regulation shall not apply until the expiration of a period of 1 year after that date.

Power Hand Tools

64. Application of regulations 38 to 43—(1) Regulations 38, 39, 40, and 43 of these regulations shall apply to every circular saw on a power hand tool that is attached to a saw bench.

(2) Except as provided in subclause (1) of this regulation, regulations 38 to 43 of these regulations shall not apply to circular saws on power hand tools.

65. Guards on power hand tools—(1) Every circular saw on a power hand tool shall be fitted with—

- (a) A hood guard to cover the upper portion of the blade on both sides to below the roots of the teeth, and also down to the depth plate when the depth plate is set at right angles to the saw and at its highest cutting position; and
- (b) A spring return self-adjusting retractable guard to cover, at the commencement and finish of the cut, the lower portion of the blade on both sides to below the roots of the teeth.

(2) Nothing in subclause (1) of this regulation shall prohibit the provision of an opening not exceeding $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (38.100 mm) at the "lead in" end of a retractable guard.

66. Safety switches—Every power hand tool that is fitted with a circular saw and derives power from an electric current shall be provided with a safety switch which operates the motor only while the switch is held in the “on” position by the operator, and which is so located on the tool as to minimise the risk of accidental starting.

Other Woodworking Machines

67. Guards for other woodworking machines—Every dangerous part of a woodworking machine (other than a machine specified in regulations 20 to 66 of these regulations) shall be guarded to the greatest extent that is practicable, having regard to the work being done at that machine, unless the dangerous part is in such a position as to be as safe to every person employed or working on the premises as it would be if it were so guarded.

Miscellaneous Provisions

68. Exemptions from obligations to provide equipment—(1) If in the opinion of an Inspector other means are provided in respect of a woodworking machine that render it as safe as it would be if any provision of regulations 36, 38, 39, 40, 44, 46, 47, 50, 51, 55, and 60 were complied with, he may in writing exempt the machine from compliance with that provision on such conditions (if any) as he thinks fit.

(2) An Inspector may at any time revoke any such exemption, or vary, revoke, or add to any conditions on which any such exemption has been given.

69. Users of machinery to observe regulations—Every person using a woodworking machine shall—

- (a) Use and maintain in accordance with these regulations the guards and other protective devices that are provided in respect of that machine in accordance with these regulations:
- (b) Use in accordance with these regulations the spikes, sticks, push sticks, push blocks, jigs, holders, and back stops that are provided in respect of that machine in accordance with these regulations.

70. Sale and hire of machinery—(1) No person shall manufacture or assemble any woodworking machine for the purpose of sale, or sell or let on hire any such machine, or as the agent of the seller or hirer cause or procure any such machine to be sold or let on hire, unless every part of the machinery (other than a part of any prime mover or transmission machinery) which is dangerous when the machine is in use, is so designed and constructed and provided with guards and other protective devices and appliances as to enable the person purchasing or hiring the machine to comply with the requirements of these regulations.

(2) Notwithstanding subclause (1) of this regulation, if an Inspector is satisfied that, in respect of any woodworking machinery, it is not reasonably practicable for a manufacturer to comply with that subclause, and that adequate safeguards can be provided when the machinery is in use, he may in writing exempt the machinery from the provisions of that subclause on such conditions (if any) as he thinks fit.

(3) An Inspector may at any time revoke any such exemption, or vary, revoke, or add to any conditions on which any such exemption has been given.

71. Offences—Every person commits an offence against these regulations who—

- (a) Fails to do anything that he is required by these regulations to do; or
- (b) Without lawful excuse obstructs, impedes, or interferes with the doing of anything required to be done by these regulations; or
- (c) Does or causes or permits to be done any act in contravention of these regulations.

72. Penalty—Every person who commits an offence against these regulations shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500, and in the case of a continuing offence, to a further fine not exceeding \$20 for each day on which the offence has continued.

73. Exemptions from sections 17 and 17A of the Machinery Act 1950—Every woodworking machine in respect of which the requirements of these regulations as to guards are complied with—

- (a) Shall be exempt from the requirements of section 17 of the Machinery Act 1950:
- (b) Except as regards any prime mover or transmission machinery, shall be exempt from the requirements of section 17A of that Act.

74. Revocation—The Woodworking Machinery Regulations 1956* are hereby revoked.

P. G. MILLEN,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

*S.R. 1956/165

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.

These regulations specify safety requirements in respect of the design, construction, and operation of woodworking machines.

Under section 27 of the Machinery Act 1950, the owner of a machine is responsible for compliance with these regulations. In addition, the regulations themselves penalise other persons who contravene them.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 29 March 1973.

These regulations are administered in the Department of Labour.