

**WAC 296-304-03005 Mechanical paint removers.** (1) Power tools.

(a) You must ensure that employees engaged in the removal of paints, preservatives, rusts or other coatings by means of power tools are protected against eye injury by goggles or face shields that meets the requirements of WAC 296-304-09005 (1) and (2).

(b) All portable rotating tools used for the removal of paints, preservatives, rusts or other coatings must be adequately guarded to protect both the operator and nearby workers from flying missiles.

(c) Portable electric tools must be grounded in accordance with the requirements of WAC 296-304-08003 (1) and (2).

(d) In a confined space, you must provide mechanical exhaust ventilation sufficient to keep the dust concentration to a minimum, or must protect employees by respiratory protective equipment that meets the requirements of chapter 296-842 WAC.

(2) Flame removal.

(a) You must ensure that when hardened preservative coatings are removed by flame in enclosed spaces, the employees exposed to fumes are protected by air line respirators that meet the requirements of chapter 296-842 WAC. Employees performing this operation in the open air, and those exposed to the resulting fumes, must be protected by a fume filter respirator that meets the requirements of chapter 296-842 WAC.

(b) Flame or heat must not be used to remove soft and greasy preservative coatings.

(3) Abrasive blasting.

(a) Equipment. Hoses and fittings used for abrasive blasting must meet the following requirements:

(i) Hoses of a type to prevent shocks from static electricity must be used.

(ii) Hose couplings. Hose lengths must be joined by metal couplings secured to the outside of the hose to avoid erosion and weakening of the couplings.

(iii) Nozzles must be attached to the hose by fittings that will prevent the nozzle from unintentionally becoming disengaged. Nozzle attachments shall be of metal and must fit onto the hose externally.

(iv) Dead man control. A dead man control device must be provided at the nozzle end of the blasting hose either to provide direct cutoff or to signal the pot tender by means of a visual and audible signal to cut off the flow, in the event the blaster loses control of the hose. The pot tender must be available at all times to respond immediately to the signal.

(b) Replacement. Hoses and all fittings used for abrasive blasting must be inspected frequently to ensure timely replacement before an unsafe amount of wear has occurred.

(c) Personal protective equipment.

(i) You must ensure that abrasive blasters are protected by abrasive blasting respirators that meet the requirements of chapter 296-818 WAC, Abrasive blasting and chapter 296-842 WAC.

EXCEPTION: Filter type respirators that meet the requirements of chapters 296-842 and 296-840 WAC may be used when:

(1) The work is done in the open;

(2) Proper eye, face, hearing, and head protection is used; and

(3) Synthetic abrasives containing less than one percent free silica are used. "Free silica" includes amorphous silica and the crystalline forms that are not chemically combined with any other elements.

(ii) You must ensure that employees, including machine tenders and abrasive recovery workers, working in areas where unsafe concentrations of abrasive materials and dusts are present are protected by eye and respiratory protective equipment that meets the requirements of WAC 296-304-09005 (1) and (2) and chapter 296-842 WAC.

Exception: This requirement does not apply to blasters.

(iii) You must ensure that a blaster is protected against injury from exposure to the blast by appropriate protective clothing, including gloves that meet the requirements of WAC 296-304-09015(1).

(iv) A surge from a drop in pressure in the hose line can throw a blaster off the staging. To protect against this hazard, you must ensure that a blaster is protected by a personal fall arrest system, that meets the requirements of chapter 296-880 WAC, Unified safety standards for fall protection. The personal fall arrest system must be tied off to the ship or other structure during blasting from elevations where adequate fall protection cannot be provided by railings.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, and 49.17.060. WSR 22-23-144, § 296-304-03005, filed 11/22/22, effective 12/26/22; WSR 17-18-075, § 296-304-03005, filed 9/5/17, effective 10/6/17; WSR 06-12-074, § 296-304-03005, filed 6/6/06, effective 9/1/06; WSR 05-03-093, § 296-304-03005, filed 1/18/05, effective 3/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040 and [49.17].050. WSR 99-10-071, § 296-304-03005, filed 5/4/99, effective 9/1/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040, [49.17].050 and [49.17].060. WSR 98-02-006, § 296-304-03005, filed 12/26/97, effective 3/1/98. Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 95-04-006, § 296-304-03005, filed 1/18/95, effective 3/10/95; WSR 93-19-142 (Order 93-04), § 296-304-03005, filed 9/22/93, effective 11/1/93; Order 76-7, § 296-304-03005, filed 3/1/76; Order 74-25, § 296-304-03005, filed 5/7/74.]