

# STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

## BRUSHCUTTER - PETROL

**ONLY TRAINED PERSONNEL  
AUTHORISED TO OPERATE THIS EQUIPMENT**



### Identified Hazards

- Eye Injuries
- Fuel (Spillage / Fire / Explosion / Vapours)
- Entanglement
- Noise
- Flying Debris
- Blade > push, pull or kick out
- Posture / Soft Tissue

### Personal Protective Equipment Requirements to Operate



Other | Additional PPE Requirements: Sun Protection

### Operating Instructions

#### Pre-Operational Safety Checks

- Perform a visual inspection of the machine for any obvious damage or faults. Check the following:
  - That safety guards and other safety devices are fitted, secure and functioning.
  - The fuel lines, tank, and area around carburettor for fuel leaks. **Do not use if leaks are found**
  - The blade unit has a debris shield, either a bar or U-handle & is suspended from a shoulder harness.
  - Blades for damage and cracks (where used).
- Select the correct cutting tool (Blade / nylon line) for the task to be undertaken.
- Where using a nylon line, load the cutting head with nylon trimmer line of the proper diameter.
- Do not operate if the line cutter is missing.
- When operating the machine with a blade, ensure the blade is secured to the unit as designed with the teeth pointing in the direction the blade head rotates.
- Ensure the machine has been regularly serviced.

#### Operational Safety Checks

- **NEVER** operate a faulty piece of equipment. Report any faults, problems or hazards **IMMEDIATELY**.
- Ensure required PPE available and worn.
- When starting, ensure the machine's line or blade cannot contact the ground or any other obstruction.
- Keep other persons out of the immediate area whilst operating. Use signage / bunting as required.
- Adjust the handle/s to a position for comfort and good balance.
- Adjust support strap as required to balance machine.
- To avoid burns, the muffler side of the engine should be away from the operator's body
- Maintain a straight wrist position. Avoid using your wrist in a bent, extended or twisted position for extended periods. Maintain footing and balance at all times. Do not work on slippery, uneven or unstable surfaces.
- Always keep both hands on the control handles. Do not operate one-handed or above waist height.
- Keep machine clear of fences, wires, posts, rocks, etc. to prevent kick out.
- Watch for ejected material and ensure that no person or animal is at risk when operating.
- Shut down immediately if the machine starts to shake or vibrate.
- After shutting down engine, keep fingers and feet away from cutting line or blade until all rotation stops.
- Disconnect spark plug wire before working on the machine or leaving it unattended.
- Stop engine before refuelling taking extreme care to avoid igniting fuel on hot exhaust or engine.

**REFER TO THE MANUFACTURER'S OPERATIONAL MANUAL FOR FULL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**