



12. Force - vibrating tools



Are vibrating tools absolutely necessary?

Note: For background information, see other side.

Are they suited for the work and the workers?

In conclusion, the current situation

is acceptable

needs improvement

What *specific* improvements can be made?

Should we analyze the situation or the proposed solutions in more detail?

no

yes - more detail on other side





12. Vibrating tools

Ergonomic design

We looked at ...	Why be concerned? (consequences)	Recommendations
Vibrating tools	<p>Vibration leads to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• limited mobility and joint pain (hands, elbows) typical of impact hammers, pneumatic drills, power chisels etc.• whitening of fingers when exposed to cold (a.k.a. Reynaud's disease or vibration white finger)• tingling, numbness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use the machine or tool that is best suited for the task/job• Maintain machines or tools on a regular basis (sharpening)• Handles<ul style="list-style-type: none">- provide anti-vibration handles- coat contact surfaces with rubber, felt, cork, etc.- hold the machine only by the handles- use gloves that fit the worker (not too bulky or too thin)• Improve postures and reduce strain:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- support the tool with a counter-weight- adjust the height of the work surface- train the operator to make the best use of the tool, using as little grip force and pressure as possible- immobilize the items that are being tooled• Organize the work differently:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- limit the time for using vibrating tools- increase the number of rest periods- alternate work with non-vibrating tools

Translated and adapted from SOBANE materials, available at www.sobane.be/fr/tms_obs.html

