

Hand arm vibration in the foundry industry

CHASAC Information sheet 1 – APPENDIX 1b

APPENDIX 1b – Sample risk assessment

R.A. Number	VWF 2	SSOW Number	N/A	Date Completed	Names of those who completed the RA	
Department	All		Original Assessment	03-06-2008	J Doe	
Process/Task	Users exposed to vibration		Date of Review	19-11-2012	Next Review	19-11-2015

Operation / Job	How many exposed and Duration	Comments.	Exposure level			Specific Actions Required	Action By Who?
			H	M	L		
Fettler / Finishing Shop.	15 Operators for up to 5 hrs per day.	Various tools used through the day to dress castings to required standard. Trigger times vary from day to day depending on work mixes and production requirements. Total trigger time throughout a 10 hr working day is believed to be significantly less than the previously predicted exposure time. HSE points are below; Area 1 estimation = 222 points = 4hrs trigger time Area 2 estimated = 228 points = 3hrs 30 mins trigger time Area 3 estimated = 201 points = 3hrs trigger time Area 4 estimated = 132 points = 3hrs trigger time	H			Continue to monitor tools on and off site. Continue health surveillance of Operators. Further monitoring of trigger times to continue. Diagnostic testing of all fettlers.	Company / Occ Health Provider
Stand grinder / Finishing Shop.	2 Operators for up to 5 hrs per day.	Same machine used throughout a 10 hr working shift. Operator holds a casting against the wheel to dress it to the required standard. Exposure times again differ from day to day.	H			On site testing to take place. Trigger times to be calculated. Diagnostic testing of all stand grinders.	Company / Occ Health Provider
Setter / Finishing Shop.	2 Operators for up to 1 hr per day.	Hi-Cycle and Darg 500 die grinders used infrequently to dress castings throughout the setting process.			L	Annual health surveillance.	
Welder / Finishing Shop.	15 Operators for up to ½ hr per day.	Infrequent use of chipping hammer to remove impurities from welds and sand from castings.			L	Annual health surveillance.	
Inspector / Finishing Shop.	13 Operators for up to ½ hr per day.	Only a small percentage of the 13 inspectors actually use vibratory tools and when they do the trigger times are very low as the use of the tools are for rectification purposes.			L	Annual health surveillance.	

CHASAC is a tripartite group made up of representatives from the UK castings industry, trade unions and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)

Fitter / Maintenance.	5 Operators for up to ½ hr per day.	The use of vibratory tools is very sporadic. Impact wrenches, angle grinders, hammer drills and other tools are to be introduced to the preventative maintenance schedule.			L	Regular maintenance of tools. Annual health surveillance.	Company / Occ Health Provider
Electrician / Maintenance.	5 Operators for up to ½ hr per day.	Very infrequently would electricians need to use angle grinders of drills.			L	Regular maintenance of tools. Annual health surveillance.	See Above.
Smelters / Foundry.	3 Operators for up to ½ hr per week.	Smelters use an air hammer to break the pouring lip prior to knocking out the furnace linings. This process is undertaken by 1 of the operators once per week. The process is rotated between the operators.			L	Continue to rotate Knock out contracts. Annual health surveillance.	Melting Managers
Moulders / Foundry.	8 Operators for up to ¼ hr per day.	Moulders use an air hammer to clean out the mixers at the end of the shift.			L	Annual health surveillance.	Company
Machinists / CNC Machine Shop.	12 Operators for up to ½ hr per day.	Machinists use 4 inch angle grinders to clean up swarf following the machining process. Trigger time is very low, maximum of 5 minutes grinding per any 1 hour.			L	Ensure preventative maintenance is being undertaken.	Company
Pattern shop	4 Operators for up to 2 hrs per day.	Operators use various tools, all fitted with anti-vibration equipment and serviced under preventative maintenance schedule. .			M	Continue to maintain and monitor tools. Continue health surveillance of Operators.	Company / Occ Health Provider
Fabricators / Fab Shop.	1 Operators for up to 3 hrs per day.	Operators use various tools, all fitted with anti-vibration equipment and serviced under preventative maintenance schedule.			L	As above.	Company / Occ Health Provider
Cleaners / Utilities.	1 Operator for up to 2 hrs per week.	Operator exposed to vibration through use of lawn mower and strimmer.			L	Regular servicing of machinery and health surveillance of operator.	Company / Occ Health Provider

KEY

H = HIGH RISK OF EXPOSURE

M = MEDIUM RISK OF EXPOSURE

L = LOW RISK OF EXPOSURE