

# **Egg Harbor Fire Department and First Responders Standard Operating Guidelines**

**SUBJECT: AIR CHISEL**

**SOG 321**

**PURPOSE:** To provide a guideline, which will permit members to use the air chisel in solving tactical problems, and promote safety by following the manufacturer's instructions.

**SCOPE:** This policy shall apply to all members of the Egg Harbor Fire Department.

## **AIR CHISEL DESCRIPTION & USE:**

Air chisels have been field proven not only for emergency use during vehicle extrication, but for all types of emergency cutting; metal doors, basement windows, fire doors, etc. Air chisels are operated using breathing air from SCBA cylinders, compressors, nitrogen cylinders or air brake outlets.

## **AIR CHISEL KIT:**

The following parts are included:

- A) Safety Goggles
- B) Cutting Tips
- C) Air – Powered Hammer (gun)
- D) Air Regulator and hose.

## **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

### **A) Air Supply:**

For satisfactory performance 90 psi of clean, dry air is required AT THE TOOL with the tool operating. Supply this air using an SCBA cylinder, low-pressure regulator and air supply hose. The air line from Engine 6 or Ladder 21 should be used first.

### **B) Safety Precautions:**

The cutting tip should be held firmly against work (object to be cut) before trigger is depressed. Safety goggles must be worn while operating the air chisel.

### **C) Loss of Power/Erratic Action:**

Tool Failure, loss of power or erratic action may be caused by factors outside the tool.

- 1) Check air pressure. 90-psi air pressure is required AT THE TOOL, while the tool is operating.

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- 2) Check for wet or dirty air. Wet air tends to wash lubricant away from cylinder to rust and corrode the tool. Dirt and foreign matter in the air supply will impede action of the valve and piston and damage the tool.
- 3) Check Lubrication. Disconnect tool and pour a liberal quantity of air tool oil into tool air inlet. Operate tool on low throttle to flush out gum and foreign matter.
- 4) Check mechanical parts of tool.

Report any damage to, or malfunction of this equipment immediately.

**CAUTION: USE ONLY COMPRESSED AIR TO OPERATE THIS TOOL. OXYGEN WILL REACT VIOLENTLY WITH LUBRICANT OIL.**