

Title:	Utility Road Saw / Floorsaw Maintenance Issues
Priority	Up to Red – Audit Rating: Non-Conformance – Major
Legislation:	PUWER 1998 / 02.
Brief Description:	During SafeHire assessments, several saws examined have been found to have badly damaged drive shafts caused by: [1] An insecure blade or: [2] Excess pressure causing the drive pin to shear and the drive shaft to rotate inside the blade arbour hole ‘grooving’ the main shaft and damaging the blades fitted.
Units Affected:	Floor / Utility Road Saw Groups - All makes models

Images:

Dismantled drive flange assembly showing hidden damage



Repaired - New shaft / nut, bearings, and flanges.

Note:

Example utility road saw with a damaged blade drive shaft caused by either no drive pin fitted, or the drive pin shearing and not replaced. This allows the blade fitted to jam in a cut while the drive shaft rotates inside the arbour / hole.

There have been examples where bolts have been welded to the outer flange to replace shear / drive pins.

These pins are a safety feature and must be replaced to manufacturers specifications.

Remove and check any hire fleet blades fitted to saws especially if damage has been caused to machines.

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Continued

Images:

Outer flange removed showing hidden thread damage



Note:

Dirty / worn treads on blade shafts and securing nuts can contribute – An operator may think that the blade is secure. The securing nut should 'freehand' tighten to the outer flange before needing to using a spanner.

Other issues noted during inspections.

- Blocked water suppression systems and guards
- Loose or missing drive belts
- Lack of grease to driveshaft bearings
- Loose cracked components due to vibration / misuse
- Guards loose causing excess noise, vibration. And further damage

Recommended Actions:	Review service and off hire checking procedure to include removal of the guards and outer flange to check for excessive wear or damage in addition to visual and pre-hire checks.
Notes:	Damage could result in injury to customer operatives or further damage to a machine. In most cases the issues raised in this bulletin would be chargeable to the user / customer
Circulation:	Workshops, Mobile service, and Management teams

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