

# SAFE WORK PRACTICES

## STRIKING/HAMMERING TOOLS

### (Cold Chisels, Punches, Drift Pins)

*\*This information does not take precedence over OH&S. All employees should be familiar with the Saskatchewan Employment Act and the OH&S Regulations.*

**General:** Striking tools are made in various shapes and sizes and for many uses. Use the correct tool for the job.

1. Wear safety glasses or a face shield.
2. Use hand protection. Hand protection can be provided by a sponge rubber shield forced onto the shaft of the chisel. Punch and chisel holders are also available.
3. Hold the chisel, for shearing and clipping, at an angle which permits the bevel of the cutting edge to lie flat against the shearing plan.
4. Discard tools which are bent, cracked or chipped.
5. Redress striking tools with burred or mushroomed heads.
6. Redress the point or cutting edge to its original shape. Grind to slightly convex cutting edge. The point angle of the chisel should be 70° for hard metals, 60° for soft.

#### **DON'T:**

- Apply too much pressure to the head when grinding a chisel; the heat generated can remove the temper; immerse the chisel in cold water periodically when grinding.
- Use cold chisels for cutting or splitting stone or concrete.
- Allow bull chisels to be handheld by one worker and struck by another; use tongs or a chisel holder to guide the chisel so that the holder's hand will not be injured.