## **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) - Hackzall**

- Select the correct blade for the material you are cutting
  - Blades that are labeled for metal can be used for plastic
  - Blades that are labeled for plastic or wood should not be used for metal
  - At least 2 teeth should be in contact with the material being cut at all times. Use more teeth per inch for thinner stock.
- Remove the battery before replacing the blade
- Use a vice or clamps to stabilize the piece to be cut.
- Do not use hands to stabilize the work unless the person stabilizing the piece can be a minimum of 12" (30 cm) from the blade.
- The operator of the hackzall should use both hands to hold the Hackzall.
- Never pull the blade out of the stock with the blade running.
- Make sure that the stock is supported in a way that will not cause the saw cut to constrict and bind the blade.
- Hold the rocker shoe firmly against the stock while cutting.
- If the tool begins to shake, release trigger immediately and determine if the cut is compressing or if the rocker shoe of the tool wasn't held firmly against the work.
- Guide the saw to cut straight (or curved) by watching the location of the blade and gently turning the tool slightly to the left or the right to correct the blade location.
- If you are cutting a curve use the guide to determine an appropriate blade width to use.
- To make a plunge cut place the rocker shoe on the material and tilt the saw forward slowly and gently as the blade cuts through the material.

## Blade Width Inches 1 3/4 5/8 1/2 3/8 1/4 3/16 7 5 ½ 4 2 ½ 1 ½ 5/8 5/16 3/16

## Quick use guide

- Remove the battery
- Insert the correct blade
- Replace the battery
- Check your safety glasses and use ear protection
- Make sure that the piece to be cut will be stable and is fully supported by clamps or a vice for the whole cut that you have planned.
- Keep hands at least 12 inches (30 cm) away from the blade. Allow the cut off piece to drop if it is shorter than 12 inches.
- Ask your safety spotter to confirm that you are ready to begin
- Make the planned cut
- Remove the battery, remove the blade, return the Hackzall to the tool cabinet

