

## Safe Practices— Water Pressure

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**Employee Participants:** 

SHOP SAFETY TIPS are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions in the work zone. For additional SHOP SAFETY TIPS, please visit SAFETY.CAT.COM.

## **TOPIC: Safe Practices—Water Pressure**

Pressurized water can cause potential safety hazards. To help avoid injury, take the following steps:

## **Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

- Protective face shield
- Rubber-soled shoes with insulation
- Protective clothing

## **Use Safety Precautions**

- Make sure the maximum air pressure for cleaning purposes is below 205 kPa (30 psi).
- Never point a pressure washer at yourself or others.
- Never attempt to push or move objects with spray from the washer.
- Never use a gasoline powered washer in an enclosed space.
- If using an electrical unit, keep the pressure washer's power cord connection out of standing water; use only heavy duty extension cords with components rated for use in wet locations; and keep both the power cord and extension cord connections as far away from the item being washed as possible, and away from water runoff.
- Have a qualified electrician check the pressure washer for electrical problems after it has tripped a circuit breaker.
- Always squeeze the gun trigger after use to relieve the pressure in the gun, hose, and pump.
- Use extreme caution when spraying near power lines, service feeds, and electrical meters.
- Keep the nozzle spray away from electrical wiring and windows.
- Do not secure the spray gun in the open position.

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