

Stationary Masonry Saw Operation JHA

Worked instructional example

Work and worksite

A trained masonry worker will cut marked brick and CMU units using a guarded electric stationary masonry saw with its integrated continuous water system at a separated outdoor ground-level station. The actual machine's carrier supports the units, and slurry is collected before it dries. This example follows setup, cutting, stopping and controlled cleanup. This fictional learning example describes planned controls; it records no actual inspection or work authorization.

- The selected saw, manufacturer-approved diamond blade, carrier, stand and power supply are suitable for the identified units and planned straight cuts.
- The employer fully implements the stationary-masonry-saw Table 1 water method and actual maintenance instructions, with competent-person oversight and assessed other exposure controls.
- Masonry-saw coverage is bounded to this stationary wet method; 238140-11 is partial because handheld cutting, splitters, dry methods and cutting installed walls are excluded.

Questions before work

- Can each unit be supported on the carrier with hands outside the cutting zone throughout its travel?
- What verifies continuous integrated water delivery before and during every cut?
- How are electrical connections, slurry collection and stopped-motion/isolation checks kept effective together?

Task Hazard Control

1 Release the station and unit cuts

Hazard: An unstable stand, overcrowded cut path or incompatible unit can expose workers to moving equipment and fragments.

Control: Cutting lead selects released marked cuts suited to the actual stationary saw and blade. Establish a stable station and carrier travel zone away from deliveries, with room to stage manageable units and remove finished pieces. Reject oversize work that cannot be supported or controlled as the manual requires.

Verification: Lead checks machine support, unit dimensions, marked cuts and clear operating space.

Reasoning: A masonry unit is not safe to cut merely because it can touch the blade.

2 Inspect and set up with power isolated

Hazard: Damaged blades, open guards or unexpected starting can cause contact injury and blade failure.

Control: Disconnect and secure the saw's supply under its actual isolation instructions before setup. Inspect the compatible blade, mounting, enclosure, drive guarding, carrier, stand and controls. Complete only the permitted adjustments, remove keys and tools and quarantine defects before the machine is connected for pre-use checks.

Verification: Operator records blade/guard/carrier findings and verifies the setup safe state.

Reasoning: Guard condition and unit support must be checked separately from the water system.

3 Establish water power and slurry control

Hazard: Lost water can release silica; wet connections or pooled slurry can create shock and slips.

Control: Connect the actual integrated system and verify continuous water delivery to the blade using the manufacturer's criteria. Arrange the required protected electrical supply and keep connections clear of water. Contain slurry and preserve dry secure footing; the silica competent person checks the selected Table 1 implementation before production cuts.

Verification: Operator confirms blade water delivery and the lead checks power, footing and containment.

Reasoning: Water must reach the cutting surface rather than only wetting the surrounding station.

Complete the work and hand over

4 Cut units on the supported carrier

Hazard: Hands, loose clothing or unstable stock can enter the blade path; fragments and noise expose others.

Control: Use the manual's carrier and unit-positioning method with hands outside the cutting area, intact guards and suitable assessed protection. Feed at the permitted rate without forcing or twisting the unit. Keep bystanders outside the station and stop immediately for binding, abnormal response, shifting stock or lost water delivery.

Verification: Operator watches water and unit control during travel; the lead maintains station separation.

Reasoning: A clear pre-use check does not guarantee the controls remain effective during the cut.

5 Stop before removing faults or adjusting

Hazard: Reaching past a coasting blade or treating a switch as isolation can cause severe contact injury.

Control: Use the actual stopping procedure and wait for complete blade motion to cease before the permitted unloading action. Disconnect and secure power before jam clearing, blade work or hazardous adjustments. Correct water or carrier faults in the required safe state and repeat relevant checks before restart.

Verification: Operator verifies stopped motion and required isolation before entering hazardous parts.

Reasoning: Normal unloading and fault intervention need different access and energy checks.

6 Collect residue and secure the station

Hazard: Dried slurry can become airborne silica and abandoned cut pieces can create sharp-edge or trip exposure.

Control: Clean the stopped, isolated equipment by its approved method. Collect slurry while wet and handle it under site waste arrangements; use suitable wet or HEPA methods for remaining residue. Do not dry sweep or blow this station clean. Secure blades, useful stock and the supply, and transfer defects or operating restrictions.

Verification: Cutting lead checks residue collection, electrical/tool state and clear access before handover.

Reasoning: The dust-control method must extend beyond the last powered cut.

Pause and reassess

- Blade, guard, carrier, stand or protected electrical arrangement is defective or unsuitable for the unit.
- Water delivery fails, stock moves, the blade binds or slurry defeats safe footing and containment.
- Work changes to dry cutting, a handheld saw, installed masonry or a unit the carrier cannot control.

Improve the controls

Needs improvement: Spray the blocks occasionally to reduce dust.

More useful: Use the actual integrated system that continuously feeds water to the blade, verify flow during cutting and stop when delivery fails.

Needs improvement: Switch off and reach in to clear the carrier.

More useful: Wait for blade motion to stop and secure the disconnected supply before hazardous adjustment or jam clearing, then recheck the corrected setup.

Decisions that change the analysis

Can the walk-behind concrete-saw example substitute here?

No. That operator moves an engine-powered saw through a ground slab. This worker feeds discrete units on a stationary carrier with different hand locations, guarding, wet electrical and slurry arrangements. Both need controls matched to the actual tool and silica method.

What must the crew record for actual use?

Record the actual work boundary, equipment and materials, responsible people, applicable criteria, control checks and unresolved actions. Keep changed conditions on hold, communicate restrictions to affected crews and obtain the required project authorization before work.

Training needs

- Actual saw instruction covering carrier travel, guarding, blade compatibility, water setup, stopping and safe isolation for adjustments.
- Applicable silica-control method and housekeeping, wet electrical protection, assessed eye/hearing protection and defect reporting.

Confirm applicable qualifications and actual training evidence for the people assigned. Related toolbox talks support discussion; they do not establish competence.

References and adaptation

MK Diamond MK-2000 electric masonry saw owner's manual

https://www.mkdiamond.com/pdf/Manuals/Masonry/2000B/156402_MK2000_Electric_OM_Rev306.pdf

OSHA 1926.1153 Silica Table 1 and housekeeping

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.1153>

OSHA 1926.300 Hand and power tools

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.300>

References reviewed October 9, 2026. Use actual equipment and product instructions, project design and site requirements. This original draft supplies no fabricated inspection, signature or approval.