



# Safety Alert

## Angle grinder chainsaw discs

27 July 2021

The following pages of this safety alert were issued by:

**Network Rail**

## Angle grinder chainsaw discs

Issued to: **All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and accredited contractors**

Ref: NRA21-10

Date of issue: 15/07/2021

Location: National

Contact: [John Watt](#), Senior Engineer



## Overview

It has come to the attention of the Plant Team via the Office of Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) that chainsaw disc attachments have been incorrectly sold for use with Angle Grinders. Due to "kick back" during operation these discs/blades cannot be used safely and can result in serious injury or fatality. This type of disc/blade grips the cutting surface and forces the angle grinder to sharply turn or jump out of the operator's hand.

These products do not comply with the Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 2008 and must not be used.

It is thus mandated forthwith that if any chainsaw discs/blade similar to those in the images above are identified then they must be removed and not used on Network Rail managed infrastructure.

## Immediate action required

- All Angle Grinders shall be inspected to ensure that chainsaw type discs/blade are not fitted.
- Do not use any Angle Grinder that has a chainsaw type discs/blade fitted; use must be stopped immediately.
- Angle Grinder chainsaw discs/blade shall be removed from Network Rail infrastructure and either returned to the manufacturer or scrapped.