



# SAFETY BRIEF

## USING POWDER-ACTUATED TOOLS SAFELY

Powder-actuated tools use a powder charge to “shoot” a fastener or stud. These tools can be especially hazardous if they are not handled safely. Follow these tips when working with powder-actuated tools:

- Do not operate the equipment if you are not trained to do so
- Never place your hand over the muzzle or point it at others
- Test the tool each day before using to ensure that the safety devices are in proper condition
- Hold the tool perpendicular to the surface
- Brace yourself for kickback while using the tool, especially when working at heights
- Wear personal protective equipment such as eye and hearing protection
- Always check to make sure no one is working behind the material you are working on
- Fire studs ½-3 inches away from the edge of the surface
- Unload the tool after each use for safe transport

### MAINTENANCE

- Review and follow the manufacturer’s warnings, recommendations and procedures
- Inspect the tool for any damages or obstructions in the barrel
- Clean the chamber of the tool when you are done working
- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for proper use and storage of the equipment
- Store the equipment in a locked location



Corporate Office: 717 Mulberry St. | Des Moines, IA 50309 | 800-447-2295 | [www.emcins.com](http://www.emcins.com) |

Disclaimer: This material is designed and intended for general information purposes only, and is not intended, nor shall be construed or relied upon, as specific legal advice.  
©Copyright Employers Mutual Casualty Company 2017. All rights reserved. RI0376