

**OREGON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES**

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**PROGRAM DIRECTIVE**

Program Directive A-23  
Issued January 1, 1979  
Revised January 16, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Tools: Powder Actuated Fastening

**AFFECTED STANDARDS/**

**DIRECTIVES:** 1910.243(d), Powder Actuated Tools and Fastening Systems; 1926.302(e), Construction.

**PURPOSE:** To provide specific interpretation as to when magazine-fed, explosive power-operated hand tools are considered loaded.

**BACKGROUND:** In developing and promulgating the above-mentioned rules, the magazine or clip-fed explosive power load was not considered. This magazine contains several explosive power loads and single loads are fed into the ram (firing chamber) as needed.

Until a load is fed into the firing ram, explosive power loads are not a part of the firing cycle. A separate operation on the part of the operator has to be made to place the load into the firing position.

**ACTION:** When magazine-fed tools covered by these rules are inspected, the tool is not considered loaded until the magazine feeds the tool, even though the magazine is in the tool.

Operator's instructions shall provide for removing the magazine when tool is left unattended.

**EFFECTIVE**

**DATE:** This directive is effective immediately and will remain in effect until canceled or superseded.