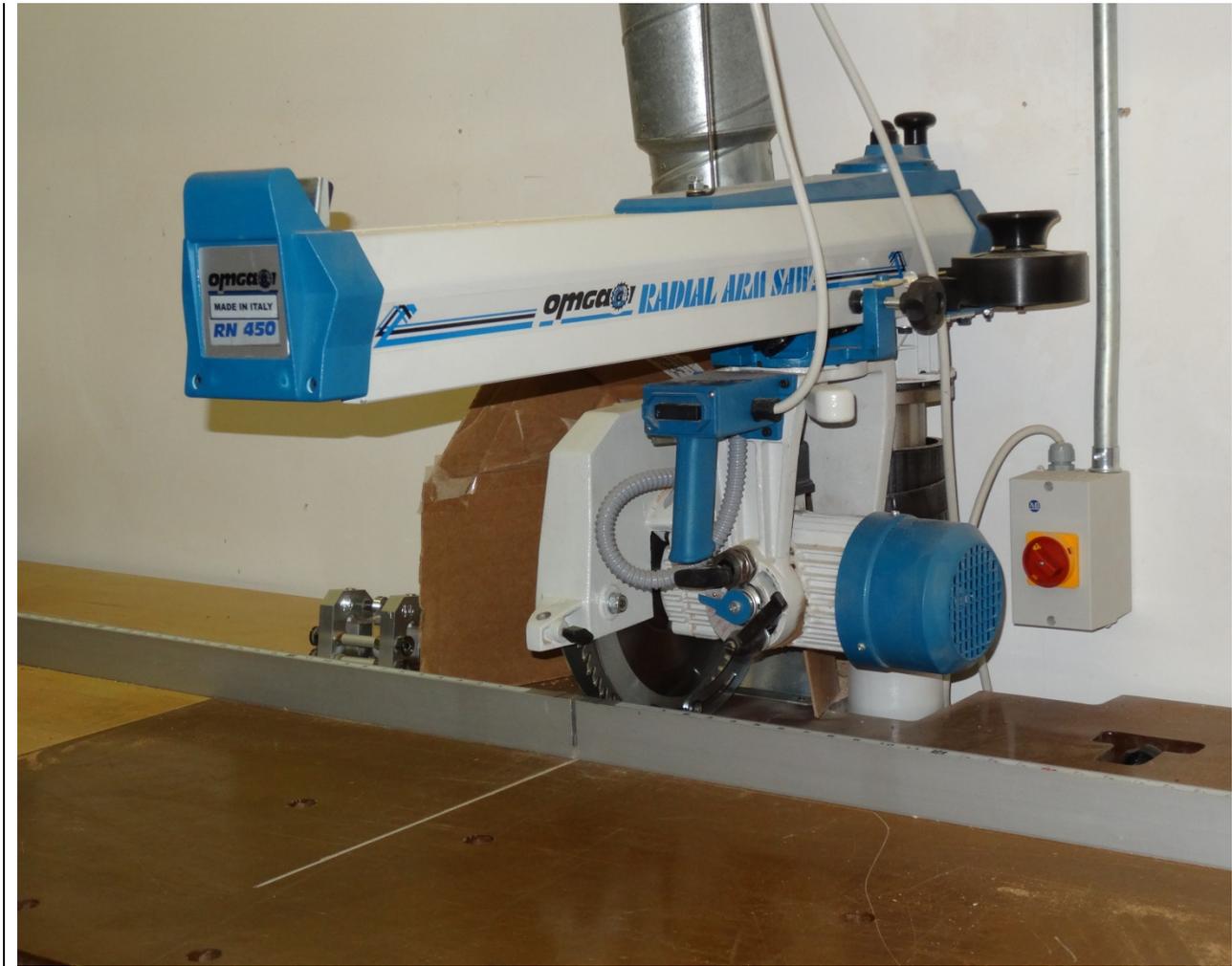


# Omga Radial Arm Saw Safety Rules



The radial arm saw has a vertical rotating blade mounted on a track that allows the blade to be pulled through the workpiece while the workpiece is held stationary. It can be used to cut with the grain (ripping) or across the grain (cross cutting) or at any angle. The radial saw can not safely cut curves and only straight line cutting is permitted in the VWWV Workshop. Although the radial arm saw is capable of ripping, in the VWWV workshop, ripping will be done only using the band saw or table saw. When cross cutting, the workpiece is supported by the fence at the back of the table and the table.

## **Radial Arm Saw Safety Rules:**

- 1. DANGER! The radial arm saw uses a sharp, rotating blade that is capable of amputating your arm, hand, or fingers, possibly resulting in death.**
2. Follow the 3” rule; always keep your fingers at least 3” from the blade.

3. Keep a balanced stance at the saw.
4. Never clear small pieces with your hand while the blade is moving.
5. Do not operate the saw unless the blade guards are properly attached and adjusted.
6. If additional guards are needed, discuss this with the Shop Leader and make arrangements to get them.
7. Never touch the blade when it is rotating, even if the saw is turned off.

**Start with a Risk Assessment to ensure a safe work area:**

1. A three foot perimeter around the saw should be kept clear of people, debris and sawdust that might impair traction or footing to avoid slips and falls.
2. Safety glasses with side shields or a face shield in combination with safety glasses and hearing protection must be worn.
3. Wear a dust mask if dust is generated and not captured by the dust collection system.
4. Remove loose fitting clothing, jewelry, and tie back long hair.
5. Give the work your undivided attention.
6. Do not cut pressure treated, wet, or reclaimed wood on this saw.

**Operational Safety Rules:**

1. Approach your work in the CLUB Shop and on the saw with a safe attitude!
2. Make sure that the blade is installed on the arbor so that the teeth below the guard point towards the rear of the saw.
3. Make all adjustments to the miter angle, bevel angle, fence stops, and fence position before starting the saw.
4. Never adjust the miter angle while the saw running.
5. Never adjust the bevel angle while the saw is running.
6. Adjust the position of the blade cover so that the bottom of the cover is parallel with the table.
7. Do not rip stock using this saw.
8. Never place your hand in the line of cut of the saw blade.
9. Ensure that the Onida dust collector is running and that the blast gate to the saw is open before starting the saw. Close the blast gate when you are finished using the saw and turn off the Onida dust collector if no one else is using it.
10. Only start the saw with the saw at the rear of the table. The blade must not be in contact with the workpiece.
11. Hold the saw handle with one hand and use your thumb to push the start switch.
12. Always hold the workpiece tight against the fence before pulling the saw blade through it.
13. Either hold the left-hand side of the workpiece with the left hand and pull the saw with the right hand, or hold the right-hand side of the workpiece with the right hand and pull the blade

through the workpiece with the left hand. **DANGER! Do not operate the saw cross-handed.**

14. If the left-hand fence stop is used, the workpiece must be held with the left hand. If the right-hand fence stop is used, the workpiece must be held with the right hand. **DANGER! Do not operate the saw cross-handed.**
15. Pull the blade through the workpiece at a moderate feed rate. Feeding too fast may cause the blade to bind, the workpiece to have tear out or excessive machine marks. Feeding too slow will cause the blade to heat up and burn the workpiece. If the blade binds in the workpiece, turn off the saw and work the blade out of the workpiece.
16. Always return the saw to the rear of the table after finishing the cut.
17. Do not start the saw with the blade in front of the workpiece and then push the blade through the workpiece. The thrust created by the blade tends to lift the board from the table when the blade is pushed into the workpiece.
18. Push the saw to the rear of the table before removing the workpiece from the table, placing a workpiece on the table, or starting or stopping the saw.
19. Do not leave the saw, and keep personnel away from the area until the blade stops.
20. If the work is too large for one person to handle, get help holding the stock or use a stock support.
21. Lockout/Tagout the Saw before changing the blade or performing any other maintenance operation. All blade changes must be done under the direction of the Shop Leader.