

## REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT



## SAFETY FIRST

If you are collecting the equipment for someone else please make sure this sheet is given to the equipment user to read. This sheet should be given to the site supervisor if the equipment is being hired for commercial use so that the information is available to all users.

**Before starting any job, be sure to spend a few minutes planning and understanding the hazards and risks of the job. Do this by:**

- Thinking about and observing your surroundings
- Running through the steps of the job in your mind
- Identifying the hazards, how you can get hurt and how you'll prevent it
- Knowing what plant and equipment you need
- Only starting when you can do the job safely
- Ensuring you are trained or experienced for the task
- Communicating with everyone involved

**Points to consider when planning a task. Can you:**

- Come into contact with an energy source (e.g. heat, electricity, substance under pressure) or hazardous materials
- Be struck-by or against anything?
- Be caught-in, on or between anything?
- Slip, trip or fall on the same or too a lower level
- Strain or sprain a muscle?
- Cause damage to plant equipment or property?
- Spill or pollute something?

## Terratrencher Chain Trencher

### Instructions for Use

#### Pre-Start Checks and Safety

Check the worksite before commencing any work for underground services and large rocks, etc.

- Familiarise yourself with all the controls and read the manual prior to commencing any work
- Appropriate PPE must be used including sturdy footwear, eye protection, ear protection and safety chaps. Ensure you have no loose clothing that may become entangled
- Keep people away from the work site
- Never leave the machine running while unattended.
- If using the trolley, ensure machine is securely attached, remote throttle is attached with the Velcro strap and is operating correctly, and that belt and harness are worn correctly

#### When Operating

- As a preference, use unit on trolley when completing long straight runs to reduce fatigue, and in handheld mode when cutting corners or in confined areas
- With a firm grip and footing, start cutting the trench with the blade at a comfortable angle (25-30 degrees) and slowly walk backwards
- If trenching harder soils, "plant" the saw on the ground and using the spiked feet guide the blade into the soil by pushing the blade down and lifting the rear handle up. Step backwards and repeat as necessary
- To level the bottom of the trench, do a high-speed pass to finish
- For normal digging use high speed. For shallow, confined or difficult areas use lower speed for more control
- Never allow the chain to jam or come to a standstill as this can cause severe damage
- When using the trolley, wear the belt comfortably around the waist with the hook facing up and towards the front. Once machine is started, hang the blue trolley connection loop strap over the belt hook, and adjust the handle to allow for the required depth of cut while maintaining control.
- The Terratrencher will not dig roots or rocks, these will need to be removed by hand
- Maintain the correct chain tension throughout the job, the chain should sag in the middle by about the height of the chain – refer to the manual to tension correctly
- Whenever refuelling ensure the drive chain cover is removed and the small drive chain is lubricated with the supplied spray

#### Starting Procedure

- Remove bar cover and ensure digging chain is clear from contact with the ground. Engage the chain brake
- Cold start – engage the choke. Warm start – disengage the choke
- Depress throttle trigger and lock with throttle lock
- Place left hand on handle and right foot in rear of saw handle
- Pull starter cord lightly until resistance is felt, then give a short, sharp pull
- When engine fires, disengage choke. Once engine is running, disengage throttle lock. Disengage chain brake when applicable

#### Stopping and After Use

- Move stop/start switch to stop
- Engage chain brake
- Re-fit chain bar cover