

# Stennis Space Center

## **Hand Safety Campaign 2016**

Knives and Cutting Tools

# Types of Knives and Cutting Tools

- Box cutters/utility knives
- All-purpose utility cutters
- Pipe cutters/trimmers
- Snips (shears)
- Sheet metal cutters
- Kitchen knives
- Wire cutters/strippers
- Scissors
- Saws
- Razor blades
- Paper cutters
- 'X-Acto' knives



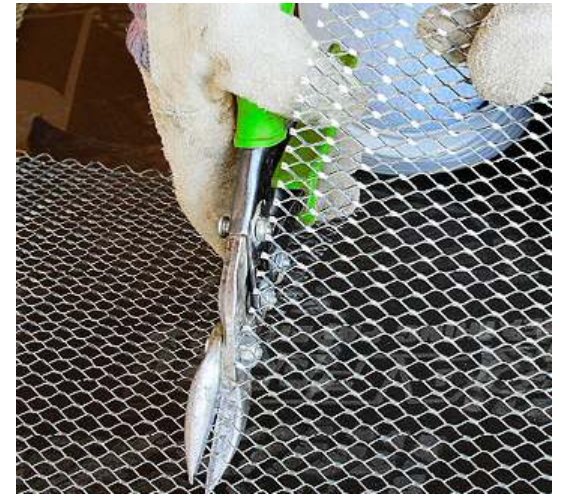
# Tool Selection and Work Area

- Right tool for the task
- Consider the task and material being cut
- Depth of the cut
- Support for material being cut
- Surrounding area free from obstructions
- Good Housekeeping



# Guidelines for Safe Cutting

- Concentrate on the task at hand
- Make straight, even cuts
- Avoid rocking, prying or twisting the tool
- Hammering or excessive force or pressure can cause cutting tools to slip
- Some materials or outdoor conditions can make tools slippery



# Line of Fire/Body Positioning

- Use a solid, even surface to cut on
- Always cut away from yourself
- Visualize the path the blade will take before making the cut
- Hold a knife or cutting tool by the handle only; do not place your thumb or finger on the blade
- Watch the positioning of your holding hand
- Secure the item to be cut
- If you drop a knife, don't try to catch it
- Wear cut-resistant gloves



# Reminders for Sharp Tools

- Use the right knife/cutting tool for the job
- Handle the tool properly
- Never use a knife for any purpose other than cutting
- Always direct the cut away from the body
- **Use hand and arm protection if your job requires a lot of fast work with a blade**
- Hand knives to another person handle first, with the cutting edge pointed away from your palm
- Keep knives and cutting tools sharp and in good condition



# Evaluation Checklist

Yes	No	<b>Ask yourself these questions before using a knife or cutting tool:</b>
		Do you have the right tool for the task? ( <i>If no, obtain proper tool before proceeding.</i> )
		Is the tool sharp?
		Do you have appropriate gloves for the task?
		Is the work surface prepared for the task, and or supported if necessary?
		Are you and others out of the line of fire?
		Good housekeeping in order?

[VIDEO](#)