

## 10. Abrasive Wheels

An abrasive wheel is defined as a cutting tool consisting of abrasive grains held together by organic (resin, rubber, shellac or similar bonding agent) or inorganic bonds. Hazards that present themselves during abrasive wheel operations include physical contact with the rotating wheel; destruction of the wheel, itself; inhalation of the bonding particles; being struck by flying fragments. All these hazards can be eliminated through adherence to appropriate machine guarding principles, appropriate PPE, and or respiratory protection.

- 10.01. Immediately before mounting, wheels shall be inspected and sounded (ring test) to ensure they have not been damaged. Ensure the spindle speed does not exceed the maximum operating speed noted on the wheel.
- 10.02. Ring Test: Wheel to be tested shall be dry and free from sawdust. Wheels should be tapped gently with a light nonmetallic implement, such as the handle of a screwdriver, or a wooden mallet for heavier wheels. If they sound cracked (dead), they shall not be used. It should be noted that organic bonded wheels do not emit the same clear metallic ring as do vitrified and silicate wheels. Tap the wheels about 45° each side of the vertical centerline and about one or two inches from the periphery. Rotate the wheel about 45° and repeat the test. A sound, undamaged, wheel will give a clear metallic tone.