INTRODUCTION
The band saw is widely regarded as among the safest of all woodworking machinery. However, it is still a dangerous woodworking tool, one that can cause considerable injury if used improperly. The Band Saw has a thin vertical blade that allows cutting curves, resawing, and large depth cuts on thick material. To avoid accidents, the following operational safety rules must be observed.

SAFE USE OF BAND SAW
- Ensure the guard doors are closed and the blade is properly adjusted prior to turning on the machine.
- Adjust the upper guard assembly to within 1/4 inch of the stock prior to starting the machine. Set the band saw at the appropriate speed for the type of stock being machined.
- Check to ensure the band saw blade is sharpened.
- Check to ensure the band saw is correct for the type of stock and correct speed being used.
- Allow the saw to reach full set speed prior to cutting stock.
- Do not force stock into the saw blade. Let the speed of the blade cut stock appropriately.
- Make “release” cuts before cutting long curves.
- Plan saw cuts to avoid backing out of curves in the stock.
- Never push a piece of stock with hands in front of the saw blade. Use a push stick. Keep hands at a safe distance on either side of the stock being machined.
- Use a push stick or board to push small or irregular sized stock. Small work pieces can also be secured with a tabletop vise or clamp.
- All round stock must be secured in a tabletop vise or clamp prior to starting the cut.
- Hold the stock flat on the table prior to starting the cut.
- If the saw blade binds on a piece of stock, turn the saw off and wait until it comes to a complete stop before attempting to remove the blade from the stock.
Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
Vertical/Horizontal Band Saw

- Do not allow large quantities of chips to accumulate around the work piece or drill press table. After stopping the machine, use a brush or rag to remove all excess chips from the drill press table and stock.