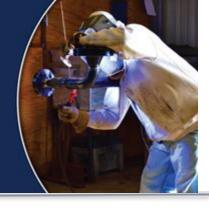




HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 11-25 Date: 04/14/2025

Brushless Electric Tools vs. Intrinsically Safe Tools





Key Safety Reminder:

Brushless electric tools and **intrinsically safe tools** are **not interchangeable** and serve very different purposes in hazardous environments.

Brushless Electric Tools: (Battery Operated drills, Impacts, Electric Grinders, etc...)

- Feature efficient, low-maintenance motors with no brushes.
- Reduce spark generation compared to brushed tools.
- NOT designed for use in explosive or flammable atmospheres.
- Still pose ignition risks due to heat, battery faults, or electrical arcs.

Intrinsically Safe Tools: (Ex: Pneumatic tools – Saws, Impacts, etc...)

- Engineered specifically for use in hazardous (Ex-rated) environments.
- Limit electrical and thermal energy to prevent ignition of flammable gases, vapors, or dust.
- Must meet strict certification standards (e.g., ATEX, IECEx).

Always verify the certification of any tool used in hazardous areas. Using the wrong tool could lead to catastrophic consequences.

Stay safe—use the right tool for the right environment.

Proper use of the GIS LIFE Processes helps to create a Fail-Safe Work Environment.

