Rare Earth Magnet Safety Information

1. Read the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for the rare earth magnet provided by the manufacturer. Note: some manufacturers do not provide SDSs since the disc are considered articles. For those providing SDSs, please read.
2. Clear ferromagnetic materials at least 1 foot of the immediate work area of to avoid attracting other objects to the magnets.
3. Staff with medical implants (i.e. pacemaker) must remain at least 1 foot away from the rare earth magnets. Area must be posted with a magnet field sign provided by ESH.
4. Staff working with the magnets for an 8-hour shift must keep whole body (torso) at least 1 foot from the magnets.
5. The rare earth magnets can be held with hands for up to an 8-hour shift.
6. Strong force between magnets can cause injury. Fingers and other body parts can be pinched between two magnets. Avoid placing body parts between two magnets.
7. When separating one piece of magnets from another or a stack of magnets, put the magnets on a durable table with the magnet to be separated hanging out of the edge of the table. Use one hand firmly holding the other magnets on the table, especially those closest to the magnet to be separated, and use the other hand holding the magnet firmly and pushing it all the way down until you cannot feel any attractions. Make sure that you keep a safe distance between the separated magnet in one hand and the remaining on the table.
8. Prolonged skin contact may cause irritation or allergenic dermatitis, especially for individuals with nickel allergy. Consider the use of nitrile exam gloves for those with nickel allergy.
9. In the case of contact with chips or dust from a broken magnet, wash well with soap and water.
10. Keep mechanical/electrical instruments which may be damaged by high magnetic fields at some distance away from rare earth magnets.
11. Wash hands prior to eating, drinking, or touching face & eyes after handling magnets.

Field measurements for rare earth magnet discs:

* 5G boundary is 5 inches from the magnet surface. Keep medical implants away from magnets.
* Rare earth magnets have very strong field near the surface and can be as high as 5000 G.

