Here is a partial list of safeguards for explosive actuated tools:

- Be sure that all fastening tools that are actuated by explosives or any similar means and propel a stud, pin, fastener, or other object to affix it by penetration to any other object meet the design requirements in “American National Standards Institute Safety Requirements for Explosive Actuated Fastening Tools,” ANSI A10.3-1970. This requirement does not apply to devices designed for attaching objects to soft construction materials, such as wood, plaster, tar, dry wallboard, and the like, or to stud welding equipment.

- If you are a tool operator or assistant, safeguard your eyes with eye protection.

- Check that the muzzle end of the tool has a protective shield or guard at least 3 to 12 inches in diameter, mounted perpendicular to and concentric with the barrel, and designed to confine any flying fragments or particles that might otherwise create a hazard at the time of firing.

- Also, make sure the tool is designed so that it cannot work unless it is against a work surface and unless the operator is holding the tool against the work surface with a force at least 5 pounds greater than the total weight of the tool.

- Use all tools with the correct shield, guard, or attachment recommended by the manufacturer.

- Avoid driving into materials easily penetrated unless such materials are backed by a substance that will prevent the pin or fastener from passing completely through and creating a flying missile hazard on the other side.

Operators of these devices need to be fully trained by competent trainers and be able to prove it.
Additional Information for Presenters
Review the information provided on the reverse side of this safety tip sheet. Please refrain from reading the information verbatim—paraphrase it instead.

ANSI Standards That May Apply:  
A10.3-1995  Power actuated fastening systems  

Link:  
American National Standards Institute  
www.ansi.org