

HEAVY EQUIPMENT SAFETY TIPS

Inspecting and Servicing Heavy Equipment

- ✓ Refer to the operator's manual for proper types and quantities of fluid and other lubricants needed
- ✓ Use an appropriate equipment checklist to ensure the equipment is safe to operate
- ✓ Always document your inspection
- ✓ Never operate malfunctioning or unsafe equipment, contact your supervisor
- ✓ Check and fill all fluids with the appropriate fluid
- ✓ Grease all equipment fittings as recommended
- ✓ Clean any dirty windshield or cab glass
- ✓ Clean debris inside the cab daily
- ✓ Ensure fleet lighting functions properly



Starting Procedures

- ✓ Parked on level surface, turn key to "ON"
- ✓ Never let a starter turn over more than 30 seconds
- ✓ Let components warm up before operating
- ✓ Check gauges for appropriate operating ranges



Operating Tips



- ✓ Read the Operators Manual for that piece of equipment
- ✓ Wear the proper personal protective equipment
- ✓ Familiarize yourself with the controls and equipment (its capabilities and limitations) before operating it
- ✓ Monitor the gauges frequently
- ✓ Know the equipment's operating "Norms." If anything looks, smells or feels unusual. Stop and investigate the issue
- ✓ Never operate unsafe equipment
- ✓ Operator should know the equipment's blind spots
- ✓ Operator should be aware of their surroundings at all times

Safety Guidelines

- ✓ Securely fasten your seatbelt or safety bar
- ✓ DO NOT permit others to ride on equipment unless the equipment is designed for riders
- ✓ Use three points of contact when mounting and dismounting equipment facing the equipment
- ✓ Ensure all decals are readable and obey them
- ✓ Reduce speed when turning, crossing slopes or on rough/slick/muddy surfaces
- ✓ Ensure the Slow Moving Vehicle emblem is visible to the motorists
- ✓ Always use traffic control signs if your working in the road or near the roadway
- ✓ When stopped, place in PARK or NEUTRAL and set the brakes



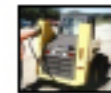
Operating Dangers



- ✓ Never wear loose clothing when around moving parts
- ✓ Ensure ALL equipment shields are in place and check for tears/ rips and loose/ missing parts
- ✓ Operate equipment within its lifting capacities, its stability and limitations ranges
- ✓ Do NOT modify any equipment or interchange implement brands. Example: skid steer attachments
- ✓ NEVER lift employees in a bucket or on a forklift



Shutdown Procedures



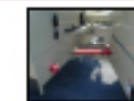
- ✓ Park on a level surface
- ✓ Idle turbo engine for 3-5 minutes
- ✓ Lower equipment to its lowest resting point and move controls to release ALL hydraulic pressure
- ✓ Pull fuel shut off knob out to shut off engine, then turn key to "OFF"
- ✓ Place equipment in PARK or NEUTRAL
- ✓ Set Parking Brake
- ✓ Refuel equipment, if possible
- ✓ Perform a post-trip inspection

Operating at the Jobsite



- ✓ Set up Work Zone and Flaggers according to the MUTCD, as needed
- ✓ Walk the area prior to work, if possible
- ✓ Look for hazards such as holes, undermines, ditches, overhead powerlines and tree limbs
- ✓ Perform a job briefing with coworkers
- ✓ Discuss the equipment's blind spots and how the equipment is to safely enter and exit the work area
- ✓ Have a spotter when backing equipment
- ✓ Drive up and down slopes and hills, not across
- ✓ Do not stop/ or engage the clutch when going up or down slopes or hills
- ✓ DO NOT operate equipment on slopes greater than 3:1 or any slope or area deemed too uneven to safely operate equipment
- ✓ Select a lower gear and travel speed on slopes
- ✓ Cross a ditch at approximately a 45° angle with only one wheel in the ditch at a time

Traveling to the Job Site



- ✓ Lock individual brakes together while roading equipment
- ✓ Turn on fleet lighting
- ✓ Use the safest high gear and range
- ✓ Obey traffic rules and regulations
- ✓ Pull off the roadway into a safe area to let traffic pass, when necessary
- ✓ If loading or unloading equipment on a trailer, unlock individual brakes and unpin articulating bar
- ✓ After on the trailer, lock brakes together and articulating areas
- ✓ Secure the equipment properly

Contact Information

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Disclaimer Note: This document does NOT cover all the safety concerns of operating heavy equipment. Always obey warning decals, refer to the operator's manual and contact your supervisor with questions or concerns.

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