

HEAVY EQUIPMENT SAFETY TIPS



INSPECTING AND SERVICING HEAVY EQUIPMENT

- Refer to the Operators 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

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 motorists
- Always use traffic control signs if you're working in the road or near the roadway
- When stopped, place in PARK or NEUTRAL and set the brakes

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
- 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



OPERATING DANGERS

- Never wear loose clothing when around moving parts
- Ensure ALL equipment shields are in place. Check for tears/rips and loose/missing parts
- Operate equipment within its lifting capacities, its stability and limitation 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

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

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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 operators manual and contact your supervisor with questions or concerns.

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