



Safety Tip of the Week

Heavy Equipment Safety

Heavy machinery is common in many industries, including constructions, mining, agriculture, energy, forestry and manufacturing. The types of machines and equipment vary widely, and heavy equipment operators must receive adequate training for each piece of equipment. These include dump trucks, asphalt pavers, backhoe loaders, excavators, dozers, rollers, lifts, excavators, and many more. Training for this kind of machinery requires classroom general safety education combined with supervised practical time in the field using machinery provided by the employer. Training may include instructor-led or web-based operator training as well as simulator training to teach controls, and familiarize trainees with machine maintenance procedures, equipment checks and safety guidelines.



When Working Around Heavy Equipment:

- Inspect the equipment prior to operation;
- Establish a defined route and clear visual path for the operator;
- Set up the equipment at the work area with enough space for large vehicles;
- Use the three-point mounting and dismounting technique off heavy equipment;
- Establish a danger zone;
- Have constant communication with the operator and crew leader;
- Maintain a clear line of sight between the operator and workers;
- Use a spotter that communicates with the operator when heavy equipment is in motion;
- Always try to walk on the driver's side of equipment;
- Workers should keep a safe distance from all sides of the heavy equipment;
- Be aware of the swing radius on certain equipment;
- Wear high visibility clothing and personal protective equipment;
- Never work under a suspended or overhead load; and
- Always stay alert.

The bottom line is make sure you are confident in your skills and have been fully trained before using the equipment to perform a job in the field.

HAVE 360° AWARENESS WHEN WORKING NEAR HEAVY EQUIPMENT!!