

Operator Safety





How Can Operators Stay Safe?

Operate equipment only if you are qualified. Safe equipment operation includes these practices:

- Before starting vehicle, do a walk-around inspection.
- Test the back-up alarm and other safety devices.
- Locate and test controls.
- Know the equipment blind spots and the swing radius.
- Use equipment seatbelts.



When entering and exiting the vehicle:

- Climb with 3 points of contact to avoid falls.
- Look for other moving equipment or vehicles.
- Wipe up grease and fluid on equipment walking/working surfaces.

What Are Other Safety Measures?

Stay alert and aware of the hazards. Report all repair needs to your supervisor. Always lock out and tag out equipment that cannot be operated. For general safety:



- Use personal protective equipment (PPE) supplied and required by your employer.
- Never use cell phones, IPODs, MP3 players, AM/FM radios, CD players, or other distractions while operating equipment.
- Safely secure equipment before using employer-provided hand-held cell phones or walkie-talkies.
- Secure unattended equipment.
- Lock-out/tag-out before repair or maintenance. Set the parking brake and chock the wheels.



How Can We Be Safe in the Work Zone?

The operator has special responsibilities. Know the job:

- Know the work zone and your position in it.
- Know the internal traffic control plan.
- Use designated equipment routes and areas.
- Identify rollover hazards.
- If you must move cones or barricades, return them to their original positions as soon as possible.