

HEAVY CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

Hazard:

Electrical shock, burns, bodily injury, property damage.

Scope:

The purpose of this procedure is to ensure that employees eliminate dangers while working next or near heavy equipment. Supervisors are required to monitor and enforce the use of this procedure.

Procedure:

1. Always maintain the required distance between equipment and electrical power lines.
2. Always locate underground gas and power lines before digging. Contact with utilities can cause serious accidents and property damage.
3. Faster equipment speeds give you less time to get out of the way – larger equipment often has more blind spot areas where the operator's vision is obstructed and heavier equipment is less forgiving when it hits you.
4. When operating this equipment in confined areas be alert for other workers – if possible, flag the area off limits to avoid unnecessary entry by both employees and visitors.
5. Always shut off the engine before fueling or performing maintenance work. Never get under a raised blade, bucket, truck body, or other suspended load unless it is properly blocked.
6. When working near heavy equipment always allow space for equipment failure or operator error. If you must work close to operating equipment, keep the operator informed of your location.
7. Think safety. Plan the work and work the plan. Follow planned inspections and report or correct any unsafe conditions immediately.
8. Be alert at all times and don't be distracted. If attention must be turned elsewhere, stop the machine.
9. Before starting engines, make sure no one is working on or near the machinery.
10. Never get on or off a moving machine.
11. Always have a fire extinguisher on hand and know how to use it. Check each extinguisher at least monthly to be sure it is in working order.
12. The equipment operator will start the day with a safety inspection – it's especially important that all glass, mirrors, horns, lights, backup alarms cables, steering, brakes, and hydraulics are operational. Defective equipment should not be operated.

Date