

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES

Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423

815-464-0200

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Week of 04/26/2021

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

WORKING SAFELY WITH HEAVY EQUIPMENT

The most important safety device on any piece of heavy equipment is the operator. The safe operation of the equipment is strictly the responsibility of the operator. He or she must know both the capabilities and the limitations of the equipment being used. Much of this information can be found in the manufacturer's manual. Let's discuss some of the things that can be done to keep the job safe, whether you are operating, or just working near, heavy equipment.

If you are the operator, dress appropriately. Loose clothing can get caught on controls or in moving parts. Check fluid levels, such as fuel, oil, and coolant. Watch your step when getting on or off the equipment. Keep steps and rungs free of grease and dirt. Once you're "on board", think like a pilot. Always do a good pre-flight inspection of all controls and instruments. Make sure the horn and backup alarm are in good working order, and always wear the seat belt. Wear all necessary personal protective equipment as well — it's for your safety.

Operate at speeds and in a manner consistent with conditions on the site. Watch out for workers nearby, and pay special attention to pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Never let anyone ride on the equipment unless it is specifically designed to carry passengers. Never leave the equipment unattended with the engine running. Always shut the engine off and stop smoking before refueling.

Environmental hazards must also be considered. Check that all gas, electric, water, sewer, and telephone lines are clearly marked. Know exactly where all overhead powerlines are located. Buried vaults, culverts, etc. can present serious cave-in problems. Be cautious when working near trenches and excavations, especially during rainy weather. Muddy conditions and water retained in the soil make heavy equipment operations even more hazardous. A safe operator must be aware of changing conditions on the site.

The operator's field of vision is often restricted. If you are working near any type of heavy equipment assume that the operator **cannot** see or hear you. Stay alert and watch for turns or movement. Always stay far enough away so that you can get clear if the equipment moves toward you unexpectedly. Listen for the horn and backup alarm, and if you hear either of them move away immediately. Never put yourself under a suspended load, bucket, or blade.

SAFETY REMINDER

**Modern construction equipment makes life a lot easier,
but heavy equipment must be treated with respect and caution.**

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____