

SAFETY TRAINING TALK

Date

TOPIC: Moving Equipment

Pay Attention! **This T-Talk is meant for everyone at this company.** A couple years ago we had a very serious incident on one of our projects. A trac-hoe operator ran over a worker's foot and seriously injured the individual. So PAY ATTENTION!

One of the best ways to avoid danger from equipment such as loaders, dozers, and trucks, is to be alert, keep your eyes open and stay out of the way. Obviously, the operator of the piece of equipment will do his best to keep from running over anyone; but, with all the commotion on the jobsite he may not see you.

In the accident, the operator had been talking to the man and then when the conversation was over, the man started to walk away – at which time the operator started to move the trac-hoe and when he looked up the man was right back where he was and the track ran over his foot.

If you must approach a piece of equipment it is imperative that you make eye-contact with the operator. Otherwise, stay clear. Also, you should use special care whenever a vehicle is backing up. The operator should have a 'spotter', but sometimes he doesn't, and many times the driver cannot see behind himself.

Don't always count on hearing a horn or an alarm. A construction site is crowded, busy, and noisy. If you take a chance and try to dart behind him, you might just slip. If you do, the consequences can be fatal.

Here are a few other important rules to follow:

- 1) Don't ride on any vehicles, except those intended to transport people. This goes for the running boards of trucks, forks of forklifts, or buckets of front end loaders. When riding in vehicles, keep your arms and legs inside where they belong.
- 2) As safe as it may seem, don't even walk alongside a loaded piece of equipment or vehicle. You can be killed or seriously injured if the load shifts, or the driver turns without seeing you.
- 3) For obvious reasons, under **no circumstances** is it alright to walk under loads, even for a moment.
- 4) Be especially careful not to touch the frame of a piece of equipment when there are power lines overhead. Remember, electricity can 'jump' several feet depending on voltage and weather conditions. So the best rule is simply STAY CLEAR.
- 5) Finally, if you notice an operator moving a piece of equipment without a spotter, stop and offer assistance. It should only take a couple of minutes, and you might just prevent a serious accident.

So remember - stay ahead of moving equipment and vehicles - Not behind or alongside. And keep your eyes on the vehicle or equipment at all times. As in most situations ... if you PAY ATTENTION, you won't get hurt!

Next - Take a moment to discuss any specific safety concerns you want the team to be aware of this week. End the meeting by having everyone sign the back of this sheet.