

Skid Steer Loader Safety Bulletin

Meeting Date: ____/____/____

The Construction Foreman's Guide To



OSHA
Regulations

Twenty-Three Safety Tips For Working With Skid Steer Loaders

- 1.** Operate the loader from the operator's compartment — never from the outside.
- 2.** Stay seated when operating the loader's controls.
- 3.** Work with the seat belt fastened and the restraint bar in place.
- 4.** Keep your arms, legs and head inside the cab while operating the loader.
- 5.** When possible, plan to load, unload and turn on level ground.
- 6.** For maximum stability, travel and turn with the bucket in the lowest position possible.
- 7.** Never exceed the manufacturer's recommended load capacity for the machine.
- 8.** Operate on stable surfaces only and always face the direction of travel.
- 9.** Avoid traveling across slopes; travel straight up or down with the heavy end of the machine pointed uphill.
- 10.** Keep bystanders away from the work area.
- 11.** Never modify or bypass safety devices.
- 12.** When entering the loader, do so only when the bucket or other attachment is flat on the ground or when the lift-arm supports are in place.
- 13.** When entering the loader, face the seat and keep a three-point contact with handholds and steps.
- 14.** Never use the foot or hand controls for steps or handholds.
- 15.** Keep walking and working surfaces clean and clear of debris.
- 16.** Before leaving the operator's seat, lower the bucket or other attachment flat to the ground, set the parking brake, and turn off the engine.
- 17.** If you are unable to exit through the front of the machine, exit through the roof or back.
- 18.** Always follow manufacturer's instructions for maintaining the loader.
- 19.** Keep the loader's foot controls and the operator's compartment free of mud, ice, snow and debris.
- 20.** Before servicing the loader, set the parking brake, lower the bucket or other attachment to the ground, turn off the engine, and remove the key.
- 21.** If the machine cannot be serviced with the bucket on the ground, use the lift-arm supports recommended or provided by the manufacturer. If the machine is not equipped with lift-arm supports, contact the equipment dealer to select proper supports.
- 22.** Never work on the machine with the engine running unless directed to do so by the operator's manual. If the adjustments require the engine to be running, two people must perform the task.
- 23.** Regularly inspect and maintain interlocked controls, safety belts, restraint bars, side screens, and rollover protective structures (ROPS).

This message is presented to you as a result of your organization's commitment to safety. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please communicate them to your supervisor. The information is for general purposes only. Always follow procedures as directed by your manager. For editorial information, or to share comments and reaction, contact the Reader Hotline, 1-800-459-1680; Reader Faxline, 1-800-459-1659; or e-mail Clement Communications, Inc., through the Internet, at editor@clcmnt.com.

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