

UTCA Safety Committee



Working Around Heavy Equipment Supervisor Talk

Moving Equipment

The best way to avoid danger from self-propelled units, such as cranes, dozers and trucks, is to keep our eyes open and to stay out of the way. The operator does his or her best to keep from running over anyone. But with all of the commotion on a construction site, he or she might not see you. And don't rely on hearing a horn or an alarm. A construction site, as you know, is not only busy, it's noisy.

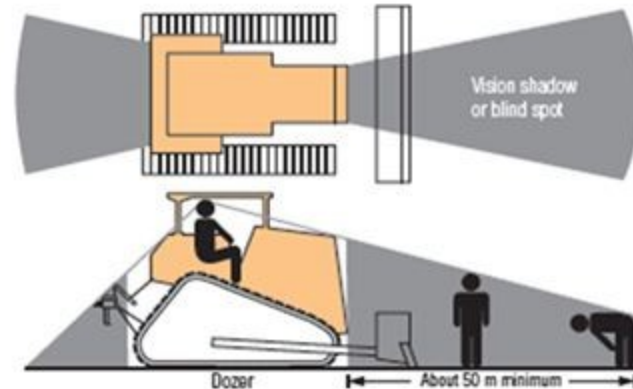
Be careful when a vehicle is backing up. Never take a chance and try to run behind a vehicle that's backing up. If you slip and fall, you may be injured or killed.

Riding on or in Vehicles

Only ride in approved seats. Do not stand or ride on running boards, drawbars, truck beds, trailers, or equipment buckets. Riding on the top of a load is especially dangerous. You may fall off if the load shifts or be crushed when going under low clearances. When riding in transport vehicles, keep your arms and legs inside where they belong and use the seatbelt.

Walking Beside Vehicles

Don't walk alongside moving equipment. You can be injured or killed if the vehicle slides or turns, or if the load shifts, or if you slip. Don't walk under loads on cranes or hoists. Be careful not to touch the frame of a crane when there are power lines in the area. If the crane touches one of them, you'll be electrocuted. Also, electricity can jump



several feet depending on voltage and weather conditions. Stay clear of crane counterweights that could strike you when swinging a load.

Other Equipment

Moving equipment of any kind is dangerous. If, for example, you're working on portable staging, scaffolding or work platforms, stay off while it's being moved unless it is designated for you to be on it.

Seatbelts

Always wear your seatbelt. Seatbelts prevent injuries and protect the operator by keeping him or her inside the cab. Also, seatbelts help protect the operator should the piece of equipment be struck by another vehicle, especially large trucks on roadways.

Accessing and Exiting the Cab

Many employee injuries occur when operators improperly access or exit the cab as a result of slipping or jumping down onto uneven ground. These injuries typically involve a shoulder, knee or ankle injury. Always face the piece of equipment and maintain a 3-point contact. (Two hands and one foot, or two feet and one hand). Never jump down.

Date: _____ **Attended By:** _____

