



Employee Appreciation

Tips to keep operators working safely

Your agency's Cat® machines are designed for safe operation. That's a good start toward the goal of everyone going home safely at the end of the day. A few, simple operator precautions will further improve your agency's safety practices on the jobsite:

Conduct pre-shift walk-arounds—Follow walk-around guidelines in the operator's manual. Check for leaks, cuts, cracks, rubbing or excessive wear. Be aware of any changes to the machine's operation, and pass that information on to the supervisor or person responsible for maintenance.

Properly enter and exit machines—Always face the equipment, and use the steps and handrails provided by the manufacturer. Make sure they are properly secured, and free of mud, grease, oil, hydraulic fluid, and debris. Maintain three points of contact, and don't carry tools or supplies when entering or exiting. Never mount or dismount a moving machine.

Wear seat belts—Seat belts do more than protect operators in collisions. They also keep workers inside the cab's rollover protection structure (ROPS). Staying buckled up keeps operators in ROPS, and keeps them safe.

Make safe work tool changes—Understand work tools warning labels, and know the machine's maximum operating and lift capacities. Before changing a work tool, check the hydraulic hoses and fittings on the work tool and machine. Train employees to follow the manufacturer's instructions in the operator's manual.

Recognize hazards—Before beginning work, operators should make themselves aware of hazards such as weather, power lines, steep slopes, ditches and tight spaces. Be aware of work tool clearance when working near obstacles, including overhead, such as tree branches and power lines.

Know where underground lines are buried—Call 811 to have the locations of utility lines marked at the jobsite.

Prevent unauthorized entry—Road project work zones should be properly marked using cones, signs or barrels to prevent unauthorized vehicles from entering the jobsites.

Learn more about safe machine operation at Safety.Cat.com. ©

***When entering or exiting,
maintain three points of contact.
Make sure steps and handrails
are free of slippery debris.***