

TOOLBOX TALKS

Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions on the job site. For additional Toolbox Talks, please visit SAFETY.CAT.COM™

TOPIC: Machine Safety—Overhead Power Line Contact

Note: Physical contact does not have to be made for electrocution to happen from an electrical arc.

Prevention

- Read and understand the instruction and warnings in the OMM relating to overhead power lines. Failure to follow the instructions and warnings may cause serious injury or death.
- Identify where the power lines are at your site and watch for them while you are in their vicinity.
- Install appropriate markers for each overhead power line to include signage in both directions and on both sides of the ROW.
- Spotter should wear high visibility vest, other appropriate personal protective equipment and ensure personnel are properly trained for the specific job duty.
- Take note if anything is different about the power lines, such as sagging or missing lines (which may mean the line is on the ground).
- Check for power lines near buildings or weigh stations, in storage yards, any lighted area, or near cranes or scaffolds.
- Look for barriers underneath power lines, warning signs, or high visibility spheres on the lines themselves.
- When you approach power lines, make sure machine implements and attachments are as low as possible. If you are not sure then stop and make sure.

When Contact Is Made

- Stay calm and stop your machine.
- Shift to neutral, set the parking brake and shut down your engine.
- Supervisor or other designated person should call for assistance.
- STAY SEATED IN THE CAB OR ON THE MACHINE until someone comes and checks the location of the line. Remember, you cannot see everything around and under your machine. It may look safe to you, but the spotter on the ground can see more and make a better judgment.
- Call the utility company if life-threatening conditions exist or develop. Secure the area and keep all personnel out of the secured area.
- Company personnel must be notified if any contact is made by the equipment and overhead power lines to ensure equipment is inspected before further use.

Machine Safety – Overhead Power Line Contact

SAFETY.CAT.COM™

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants:

The material in this document is provided for informational purposes only and not as a comprehensive or exhaustive resource on this topic. This material has been compiled from a multitude of sources believed to be accurate; however, Caterpillar Inc. assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or currency of this information and encourages you to consult experts in this area for more information. In no event does the content of this document supersede any applicable local, state, or federal statutes or regulations.

SAFETY.CAT.COM™

<http://safety.cat.com/toolbox>

CAT, CATERPILLAR, their respective logos, "Caterpillar Yellow" and the POWER EDGE trade dress, as well as corporate and product identity used herein, are trademarks of Caterpillar and may not be used without permission. © 2009 Caterpillar All Rights Reserved

CATERPILLAR®