

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

### **TOPIC: Fire Safety in the Waste Industry**

#### Jobsite Tips

- Keep to a minimum the quantity of flammable materials (liquids and gases) on site
- Properly label and store all flammable materials
- Return flammable gas cylinders to a ventilated storage area at the end of each shift
- Strictly ban smoking and other ignition sources from areas where gases or flammable liquids are stored or used. Post signs that are clearly visible.
- Properly maintain gas cylinders, hoses and equipment and keep them in excellent condition at all times
- When gas cylinders are not in use, ensure valves are fully closed and they are stored properly.
- Always remove flammable and combustible waste and store it in suitable bins or containers
- Provide a proper quantity of suitable fire extinguishers. Make sure every worker knows where they are located and how to use them.
- Know all emergency procedures for evacuating the site, raising the alarm and contacting the local fire department
- Develop plans to handle all fires and possible emergencies

#### **Machine Tips**

- Always perform a pre-shift and post-shift walk around
- Visually inspect the machine anytime you are off of the machine
- Always clean all debris from the machine, especially the heat sources
- Always turn off the disconnect switch when leaving the machine for extended periods of time
- Be alert for fires on your machine, other machines / vehicles, and in the waste
- Train all operators on fire suppression, extinguisher checks, and operation
- If a fire occurs, if possible, safely move the machine off of the waste, activate the fire suppression (if equipped), call for help, safely dismount the machine and move away from the machine

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## Fire Safety – Waste Industry

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Discussion Date:	
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**Employee Participants:** 

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