



Safe Operation on a Slope – Waste Industry

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TOPIC: The safe operation of a machine on a slope relies on three factors: the type of terrain, a properly maintained and equipped machine, and a well-trained operator.

Type of Terrain

- Uneven terrain can make the machine less stable
- Be cautious of newly filled material
- Be aware of soft / un-compacted areas
- Be alert for buried hard materials that could cause sudden change of center of gravity
- Avoid steep side slope travel. Travel up and down slope or at least 45 degree's to the slope.
- Cover - Rocky surfaces can cause a machine to side slip down a slope

Properly Maintained and Equipped Machine

- Balance is critical, be sure you have the right equipment and attachments
- Know the weights and balance of any implements being towed
- Be sure you have the correct type of tires
- Make sure the machine's fluids are full
- Always consult the Operator and Maintenance Manual for proper operations and fluid level requirements

Well-Trained Operator

- Always read and understand the Operator and Maintenance Manual before operating
- ALWAYS wear your seat belt
- Avoid operating across the slope
- Always operate up and down the slope
- Keep work speed to a safe operating speed for the steepness of the slope (normally 1st gear)
- Make sure the heaviest end of the machine is going uphill
- Keep all attachments or pulled loads as low to the ground as possible
- Know when the slope is too steep to be safely worked on
- Identify potential hazards

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants:

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