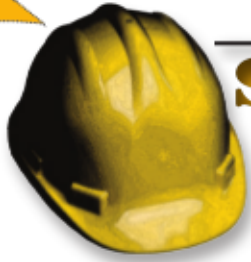


Tear this out and share with your crew



# SAFETY WATCH

by Barbara Cox

## Worth 1,000 words Acquainting yourself with these common machine safety decals could save your life.

It has been said a picture is worth a thousand words, but safety decals on construction equipment are worth more than that – they could save your life. Crucial to preventing injury or even death, these often overlooked cautionary reminders take little time and effort to notice and heed.

The following safety pictorials are provided by the Association of Equipment Manufacturers.



Always wear all the protective personal equipment the job requires, including your hardhat, eye protection or face shield, gloves and safety shoes.



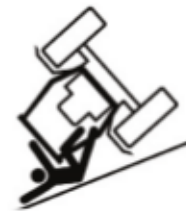
Use caution while maintaining high pressure fluids. Hydraulic fluid under pressure can penetrate your skin and eyes, causing serious injury, blindness or death. Cycle all hydraulic steering and other controls to relieve system pressure after shutdown.



Before you begin digging on a site, always call 811 to check for possible underground utilities in the area, such as natural gas, water or sewer lines.



Check your overhead clearances and do not approach power lines with any part of your machine unless all local, state and federal OSHA safety precautions have been taken. Electrocution can result from approaching or touching overhead or underground power cables.

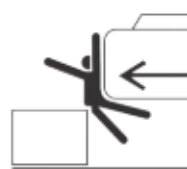


Avoid traveling across slopes, operating machines up and down slopes instead. If your machine comes equipped with a ROPS, always use your seatbelt, and take care ascending and descending steep grades. Also avoid operating equipment too close to overhangs, holes or ditches. If you start to tip, immediately stop and get off

the machine after you've applied the parking brake.



Make sure workers keep a safe distance from those operating a backhoe, wheel loader or other machine with a loader arm or bucket. Do not allow anyone to enter the loader swing area.



Never enter or allow anyone else to enter the excavator pivot swing area. Death or serious injury can result from the excavator pinning or crushing a person's body. Prior to operation, check for obstructions and ensure you have sufficient clearance for tail swing.



Stay clear of rotating components and moving parts, and do not wear any loose clothing or accessories that could catch in the equipment. Wrapping or entanglement may occur, causing serious injury to legs or feet as shown here with a trencher. **EW**

Information for this Safety Watch was gathered from the Association of Equipment Manufacturers' Safety Manuals for Operating and Maintenance Personnel. It is intended for general information purposes only.