

HAZARD ALERT



WORKER CRUSHED BY BOOM OF A PULP/LOG LOADER

A young truck driver was killed when the piece of heavy equipment he was standing under fell and hit him in the back. The victim was helping a loader operator load a pulp truck when the accident occurred.

The young man had climbed the access ladder to the loader controls to give a power saw to the operator and was waiting to retrieve it. The operator was trimming logs interfering with the swivelling of the loader. While proceeding, he

accidentally pushed the control of the stick boom. The boom went down freely, crushing the victim against the loader and causing his death.

WHSCC investigating officers determined the causes of the accident were failure to bring the loader to a zero energy state and allowing an employee to stand under a suspended load.

Recommended Preventive Action

- Workers should stand safely out of the way while trucks are being loaded and unloaded, maintaining eye contact with the loader-operator at all times.
- Never stand or work under a suspended boom, empty or loaded.
- Maintain a safe distance from the boom. The distance should exceed the radius of the boom plus the length of the piece of wood it would be picking up.
- Operators should never leave the controls until the boom is in a resting position, either on the ground or on the load.
- A machine must be put in a zero energy state before any cleaning, maintenance or adjustment is performed.
- Workers involved in the loading, unloading and hauling of forest products must wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (hard hat and steel-toed boots with puncture-resistant soles).



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WHSCC
All Accidents are Preventable

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Check out the CCOHS website, www.ccohs.ca, or call 1 800 263-8466 for health and safety