

HAZARD ALERT



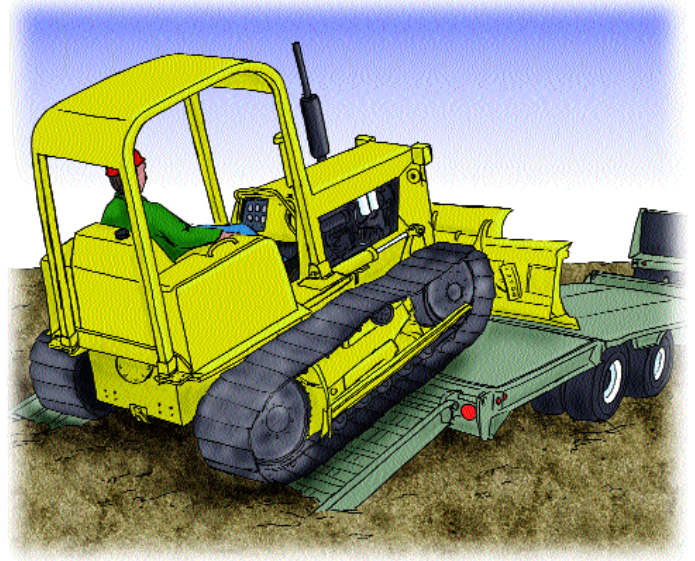
OPERATOR DIES AFTER BEING PINNED UNDER A DOZER

An experienced heavy-equipment operator was fatally injured while attempting to off-load a dozer from a float.

The accident occurred while the operator was trying to off-load a dozer which had been left partially skewed on a tilted float. The inclination of the dozer combined with some mechanical malfunctions resulted in the dozer driving off the float. The operator was fatally injured when he was ejected from the cabin as the dozer tipped.

WHSCC investigating officers determined the causes of the accident were:

- The malfunctioning of the throttle and brake springs due to lengthy cold weather exposure. The problems were known, but not reported.
- This malfunctioning combined with the position of the dozer and float caused the dozer to react in a series of quick motions. Attempts by the operator to correct the movement of the dozer couldn't prevent it from driving off the float.
- Corrective measures may have been influenced by a difference in controls. This particular unit had a decelerator pedal instead of a more commonly used accelerator pedal.
- The seatbelt was not worn.



Recommended Preventive Actions

When loading or off-loading a powered piece of equipment:

- Use specifically designed pins (from manufacturer or retro-fit) to prevent sideways movement of equipment.
- Make sure the float is **on level ground**.
- Wear your **seatbelt at all times**.
- Make sure that the equipment meets the manufacturers standards and is maintained in good condition.
- Notify supervisors and other operators of any equipment failures or malfunctions and, if necessary, have it remove from service until repairs are completed.
- Operators must be trained on the specific unit in use. Competency on one model does not ensure competency on another.

Issued August 2001

1 800 442-9776

WorkSafe[®]
TravailSûr

WorkSafe™ is a trademark of the WCB of British Columbia, and is used under license.

www.whscc.nb.ca

WHSCC
All Accidents are Preventable