

HAZARD ALERT



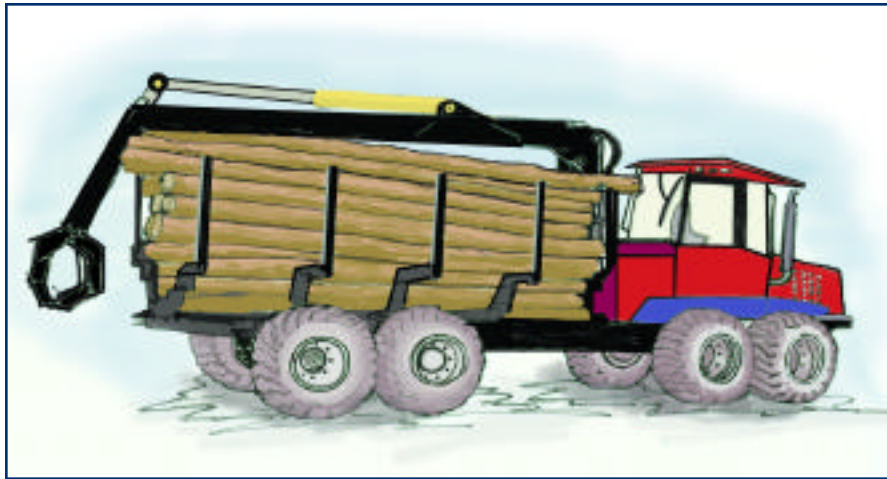
LOG CRASHES THROUGH REAR WINDOW OF FORWARDER

The operator of an eight-wheeled forwarder narrowly escaped injury when a log slid forward over the bunk of the load he was

transporting and crashed through the rear window of the cab. The operator was traveling to roadside with a full load of logs when the logs shot forward as the equipment drove through the roadside ditch. "I thought the glass was

bulletproof and that this couldn't happen to me," stated the operator.

The WHSCC investigation revealed that the rear



window was the original one supplied with the machine. It was made of 9mm thick Marguard. This type of Lexan glazing is only designed to take the shock of protruding branches and not the full force of a log.

Recommended Preventive Action

- Don't overload the machine. Logs should be contained inside the bunk area.



- Don't rely solely on glazing as a safeguard against injury. Although glazing materials have improved over the years, their strength can decrease over time with the effects of UV rays and contact with hydraulic oils or petroleum-based products.
- Replace Lexan that:
 - becomes hazy or yellow,
 - has a scratch on either side that can be felt with a fingernail, *or*
 - has small cracks coming from the edges or mounting holes.
- For unguarded Lexan material, install appropriate metal guarding if there is a likelihood that the window will be struck with severe impact.

WORKPLACE HEALTH, SAFETY AND COMPENSATION COMMISSION OF NEW BRUNSWICK

1 800 442-9776

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October 2002