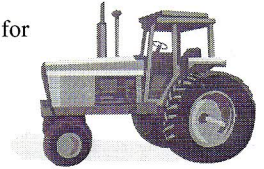


Job Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Finish Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Foreman/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

## Topic 231: Tractor Safety

**Introduction:** There are an estimated 800 fatalities a year involving tractors, and another 9,000 injuries. Rollovers accounted for nearly 50 percent of the tractor fatalities. The majority of these fatalities could have, and should have, been prevented. By following the safety rules below, these yearly incidents involving tractors should be significantly reduced:



**Tractor components – General requirements:**

- **The engine shut-off** must be within reach of the operator when seated in the normal operating position.
- **There must be** steps, handholds, or grab bars on tractors for safe access. Steps must have slip-resistant surfaces.
- **The operator's cab** and work platforms on all tractors must have guardrails or fall protection when any of the following conditions exist:
  - \* The operator is standing or not protected from falling by the framework, body, or design of the equipment.
  - \* The floor of the operator's station is more than 22 inches above the adjacent floor or ground level.
  - \* The operator's station, regardless of height, is located so that a worker could fall into the path of equipment or moving parts.
- **Tractors must be** equipped with adequate rollover protection and seat belts.
- **The operator's platform** must have a slip-resistant floor.
- **Levers controlling** hoisting or dumping devices must have a latch or other device that prevents accidental tripping of the mechanism.
- **Windshields and windows** must be safety glass that meets the requirements for safety glazing material for vehicles.
- **Replace defective** glass that impairs the vision of the operator. Replace broken or shattered glass that could cause injury.

**Brakes** - Brakes must be in safe working condition.

- **Tractors must have** brakes that can control the tractor while fully loaded on any grade.
- **Parking brakes** must be able to hold the loaded tractor on any grade on which it may park.



**Lights** - Tractors operated at night must have sufficient light at the operator's station.

**Inspection, testing, maintenance, and repair.**

- **Check tractor** as often as needed to assure that it is in safe operating condition and free of damage.
- **Fix defects** that effect the safe operation of the tractor immediately.
- **Block or crib** machinery, equipment, or elevated parts to prevent falling or shifting before employees work under or between the tractor parts.
- **All controls** must be in neutral with motors off and brakes set to perform work or maintenance, unless the work requires otherwise.
- **Stop tractor engines**, except diesels, while fueling. Do not fuel tractors within 35 feet of any open flame or other sources of ignition.
- **Tractors must** have an audible warning device (horn) that can be clearly heard above the surrounding noise near the vehicle.
- **Tractors with** obstructed view to the rear must have a backup alarm audible above the surrounding noise level.



**Tractor operations general requirements:**

- **Only the operator** may ride on tractors unless there are safe riding facilities for additional riders.
- **Do not drive** a tractor up to anyone who is in front of a stationary object.
- **The operator must** look in the direction of travel, and have a clear view of the path of travel, unless guided by a signal person.
- **Do not stand**, walk, or work under an elevated part of a tractor whether loaded or empty unless it is blocked or cribbed.
- **Do not overload** any tractor. Keep loads stable and well balanced. Do not drive a tractor with an unstable or insecure load.
- **Block the wheels** and set the brakes when loading tractors that might move. This does not apply when loading tractors "on the go".
- **Do not put** arms or legs between working parts or outside the running lines of tractors. Do not jump on or off moving tractors.
- **If the operator** of a tractor cannot see workers on a piece of equipment which is being towed, the operator and workers must have a way to communicate with each other.
- **Tractors designed** to run less than 25 mph must display a "slow moving vehicle" emblem when operated on a public thoroughfare.



**Conclusion:** Regardless of the equipment type, heavy equipment, earthmoving, or a farm tractor, the employer is required to see that the equipment operator is authorized and qualified by training and experience to safely operate the equipment they will use.

### Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel Safety Violations: \_\_\_\_\_

**Employee Signatures:** \_\_\_\_\_ (My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)


*These guidelines do not supercede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.*