



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Mobile District

Safety Bulletin

Mobile District

Volume 5, Issue 12

Special points of interest:

- Independence Day is 4 July
- July is Ultraviolet Safety Month

Changes to 03 Nov 2003 Edition of EM 385-1-1

We have posted two new changes to the Safety Manual that will become effective 30 Jun 2005. You can view the changes on our web page under EM385-1-1, Changes. The changes were initiated by Tom Deja and vetted by a PDT consisting of a variety of SMEs. They have been reviewed by the affected manufacturers and the AGC. Please assure that the notice of this change is widely disseminated in your organization and that you specifically send notifications to Construction, Operations, and your Contracting people. Don't forget that the changes become binding on the effective date indicated.

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You can find the web page at: <http://www.hq.usace.army.mil/soh/em385/changes/3nov03changes.htm>

Change 002 - Section 16.A

HYDRAULIC EXCAVATORS, WHEEL LOADERS, TRACK LOADERS AND BACKHOE / LOADERS

Insert the following paragraph 16.A.36 at the end of existing SECTION 16.A GENERAL.

16.A.36 The manufacturer's specifications and operating manuals for hydraulic equipment and attachments utilizing quick connect / disconnect systems shall be followed. After completing a switch in attachments, the equipment operator shall take the actions necessary to ensure the quick connect / disconnect system is positively engaged.

Insert the following SECTION 16.N into SECTION 16. MACHINERY AND MECHANIZED EQUIPMENT:

16.N HYDRAULIC EXCAVATORS, WHEEL LOADERS, TRACK LOADERS AND BACKHOE / LOADERS USED TO TRANSPORT OR HOIST LOADS WITH RIGGING

16.N.01 When hydraulic excavating equipment (See Appendix T) is to be used to transport or hoist loads utilizing hooks, eyes, slings, chains, or other rigging the following requirements shall apply:

(a) Operations involving the use of hydraulic excavating equipment and rigging to transport or hoist loads require different operator skills and considerations than the standard excavating operations routinely performed with hydraulic excavating equipment. An AHA specific to the transporting or hoisting operation shall be prepared. The AHA shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Written proof of qualifications of equipment operators, riggers, and others involved in the transporting and hoisting operations;

- (2) Performance of the operational test described in 16.N.01
- (b);
- (3) Proper operating procedures in accordance with the equipment manufacturers operating manual;
- (4) Proper use and on site availability of manufacturer's load rating capacities or charts;
- (5) Proper use of rigging, including positive latching devices to secure the load and rigging;
- (6) Inspection of rigging;
- (7) Use of tag lines to control the load;
- (8) Communications;
- (9) Establishment of a sufficient swing radius (equipment, rigging and load) and

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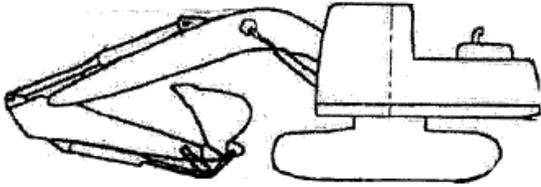
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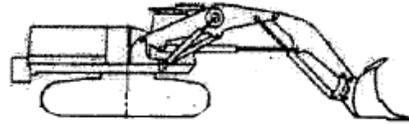
Change 003 - Appendix T

APPENDIX T

EXCAVATORS



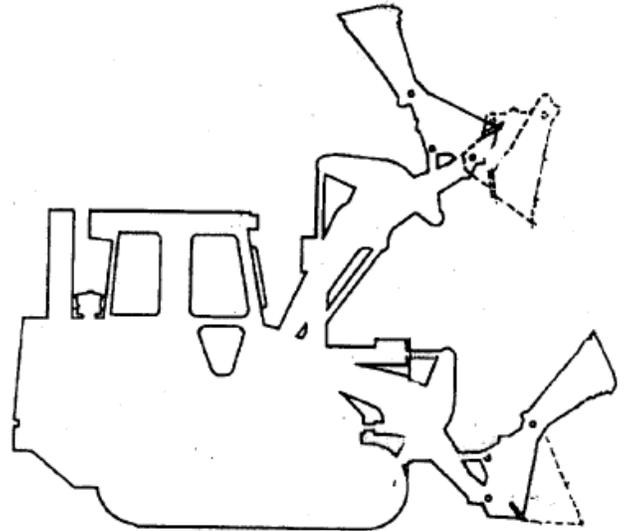
EXCAVATORS – FRONT SHOVELS



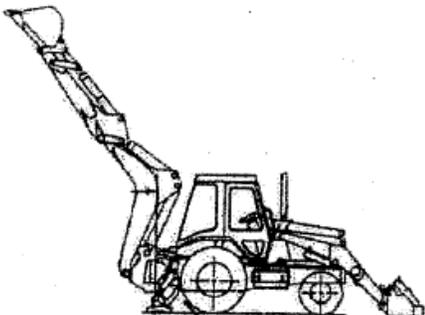
WHEEL LOADERS



TRACK LOADERS



BACKHOE LOADERS



Tips: Safety Measures for the Cleanup and Recovery from Hurricanes

Federal and Florida officials want to encourage employers, workers and their families to take appropriate safety measures to avoid injury and illnesses associated with the recovery and cleanup efforts following hurricanes.

The potential for fatal accidents involving electrocution from power lines, as well as serious injuries associated with cleanup and recovery efforts have prompted OSHA to remind employers, workers and the public to ensure that they observe appropriate safety and health precautions while performing cleanup and utility

restoration operations. This includes coordinating with control centers responsible for power circuits so that workers do not enter areas where there are live wires.

"Now that the hurricane season is upon us it's important to remember that even after a storm is over, the dangers are not-particularly for workers restoring power lines, cutting down tree limbs, and doing other cleanup and recovery work," said Jonathan L. Snare, acting assistant secretary of labor for OSHA. "This type of work can be very hazardous and accidents can cost lives."

Information on avoiding hazards and safely cleaning up after a hurricane is available from OSHA to help workers who are involved in recovery and restoration efforts. Fact sheets on issues and hazards relating to recovery and cleanup efforts following hurricanes are available on the agency's Natural Disaster Recovery page <http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/hurricaneRecovery.html>.

Change 002 - Section 16.A, continued from page 1

(10) Stability of surfaces beneath the hydraulic excavating equipment.

(b) An operational test with the selected hydraulic excavating equipment will be performed in the presence of the GDA. The operational test shall consist of a demonstration that the test load and selected rigging can be safely lifted, maneuvered, controlled, stopped, and landed. The operational test shall be representative of the complete cycle of the proposed transporting or hoisting operation, including configuration, orientation and positioning of the excavating equipment and the use of identical rigging. The test load shall be equivalent to the maximum anticipated load, but shall not exceed 100% of the manufacturer's load rating capacity for the excavating equipment as configured. Written documentation of the performance of the operational test outlining test procedures and results shall be

maintained at the on-site project office.

(c) All rigging and rigging operations shall comply with the requirements of SECTION 15 RIGGING. Hooks, eyes, slings, chains or other rigging shall not be attached to or hung from the teeth of a bucket during the transporting or hoisting of a load by hydraulic excavating equipment.

(d) After the completion and acceptance of an operational test described in 16.N.01 (b), if repairs, major maintenance or reconfiguration are required to be performed on the hydraulic excavating equipment or attachments, another operational test as described in 16.N.01 (b) shall be performed to demonstrate that the completed repairs are satisfactory and that the test load and selected rigging can be safely lifted, maneuvered, controlled, stopped, and landed.

16.N.02 Loads shall be lifted the minimum height necessary to clear the ground or other obstacles and carried as low as possible when the equipment is traveling.

16.N.03 Loads shall not be lifted over personnel.

16.N.04 Adequate clearances shall be maintained from electrical sources. See Section 11.

16.N.05 Hydraulic excavating equipment shall not be used to hoist personnel. The riding of personnel on loads, hooks, hammers, buckets or any other hydraulic excavating equipment attachment is prohibited.

Did you know...

The term "the whole 9 yards" came from W.W.II fighter pilots in the Pacific.

When arming their airplanes on the ground, the .50 caliber machine gun ammo belts measured exactly 27 feet, before being loaded into the fuselage. If the pilots fired all their ammo at a target, it got "the whole 9 yards."



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Website Update

Website Update

Don't forget to check out our new and improved website! New PHA's, new resources, checklists, training material, forms, and more!!

www.sam.usace.army.mil/so/

July is UV Safety Month

We all know the importance of using sunscreen to protect our skin from the sun's harmful rays, but what about protection for our eyes?

In honor of UV Safety Month, celebrated throughout the month of July, Eye M.D.s across the nation are urging Americans to protect their eyes and those of their children by wearing sunglasses and wide-brimmed hats.

"Recent studies have shown that prolonged exposure to the sun's invisible, high energy ultraviolet rays without protection may cause eye conditions that can lead to vision loss, such as cataracts and age-related macular degeneration," said Dr. Carpenter, an Eye M.D. practicing in Mobile. "During the summer months the level of ultraviolet radiation is three times greater than the winter. The more exposure to bright light, the greater the chances of developing these

serious eye problems."

Sunglasses and a wide-brimmed hat are the best defense system for your eyes. To be effective, both must be worn every time you're outside for prolonged periods of time, even when it's

overcast.

But what type of sunglasses should you buy? "The most important thing is to purchase sunglasses that block 99 to 100 percent of UV-A and UV-B rays," said Dr. Carpenter. "Don't be

misled by the color of the lens or the price tag dangling from the frame."

The ability to block UV light is not dependent on the darkness of the lens. UV protec-

tion can come from adding chemicals to the lens material during manufacturing or from a chemical coating applied to the lens surface. And as for the cost, many \$10 sunglasses provide equal or greater protection than a \$100 pair. With expensive sunglasses, you're paying for style, frame quality and options such as scratch-resistant coatings, not protective ability.

In addition to the damage caused by repeated sun exposure overtime, you need to protect your eyes from acute damage caused by a single day in the sun. Excessive exposure to ultraviolet light reflected off sand, snow or pavement can burn the eye's surface. Similar to sunburns, eye surface burns usually disappear within a couple of days, but may lead to further complications later in life.

Have fun in the sun this summer, but do remember to use optimal care in protecting your eyes!

KEEP YOUR SIGHT

Excessive sun exposure may cause eyesight damage



Protect yourself from the sun by wearing:

- sunglasses
- wide-brimmed hat
- sunscreen

UV Safety

For more information or to Find an Eye M.D., visit www.aao.org

