

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

## **TOPIC C293: SKID STEER LOADERS**

**Introduction:** Skid steering loaders are common on jobsites. Skid steer loaders may be operated safely by following the general safety requirements for heavy equipment and those specific to skid steer loaders.

**Heavy Equipment Requirements:**

- No repairs until workers are protected from movement of equipment or parts
- Follow all Lockout/Tag out requirements for repairs
- Whenever operating equipment near a street or highway, traffic controls must be used
- All pieces of equipment must have working service, emergency, and parking brakes
- Equipment must have roll-over protection (ROPS) and seat belts
- Machines must have an automatic backup alarm loud enough to be heard over the jobsite noise
- Always check equipment and systems for operational capability prior to work
- Machines must have a horn
- Keep cab windows clean, and have any cracked or broken windows replaced
- Turn off engine and allow it to cool before refueling
- Pinch points during normal operation must be guarded

**Precautions Specific to Skid Steer Loader Operations:**

- Must be trained to operate before working unsupervised or near co-workers
- No repairs or maintenance on a loader with the bucket raised unless it's blocked
- All controls must be in neutral before starting the machine. Keep the loader clean and free of clutter
- Tools and equipment in the cab is secured. Keep all controls clean
- Tires are properly inflated or machine can tip over under load
- Keep loads as low as possible while traveling, reduce speed when making turns, keep speeds low on rough terrain and when near workers
- Stop the loader slowly and smoothly to prevent it from reversing direction, which can cause the loader to tip
- Don't load trucks, bins or equipment with workers nearby. Check for overhead lines or obstructions before raising the bucket
- Never use loader bucket as a man-lift. Don't carry personnel anywhere
- Do a walk around to make sure the area is clear and the machine is safe to operate
- Don't allow the tires to spin while picking up or pushing a load
- Don't walk, work, or allow anyone under the bucket
- Never use the loader as a battering ram, raise and lower the bucket smoothly and slowly
- Caution on slopes. Don't raise the bucket unless the loader is facing directly up-slope
- When raising the bucket up-slope, don't completely fill it as material can spill over the back and into the cab
- When operating around ground workers or vehicle traffic, strike the bucket after filling by tipping the load slightly forward then sharply back to the stop position. This will seat the load and dislodge any loose material
- Don't operate near an excavation, the weight of the machine can cause a cave in
- Never under-cut a bank which is higher than the machine

**Conclusion:** Each skid steer loader has its own characteristics. Make sure you are familiar with the machine you'll be operating. Always test-drive an unfamiliar machine in an open, unpopulated area before starting work, especially around ground personnel.

**Employee Attendance:**(Names or signatures of personnel who are attending this meeting)
