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## Acknowledgment

We wish to thank the members of the Association of Equipment Manufacturers for their invaluable contributions in preparing this Safety Manual.

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# Operate Safely

## Follow Safe Operating Practices

Make these safe practices part of your daily routine:

- Keep your seat belt/operator restraint fastened.
- Never leave the operator's seat without lowering the bucket or other attachment flat on the ground, or engaging the approved lift arm support device(s) and then stopping the engine and removing the ignition key, if equipped. (See page 33, **Safe Shutdown**.)
- Operate the controls smoothly — don't jerk the steering levers or joysticks.
- Carry the load low.
- Avoid sudden stops, starts or turns.
- Use care and good judgment.
- Never attempt to operate the controls unless properly seated in the cab.

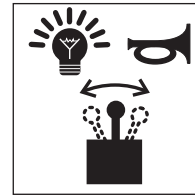
**⚠ WARNING!** Avoid Serious injury or death! **Keep your entire body inside the operator's cab while operating the machine.** Never work with your head, arms, feet or legs beyond the operator's compartment.

## Use Attachments Safely

Most loaders can be operated with a wide variety of attachments. These include buckets, pallet forks,

augers, snow plows and many others. Make sure the attachment is approved by the manufacturer for use on the machine you are operating. If you are not sure, ask your supervisor or contact your dealer. Be sure to read the manufacturer's operating manuals pertaining to that attachment before using it. Make sure the attachment is properly coupled to the machine before using it.

**Stay alert!** Should something break, come loose, or fail to operate on your machine, stop work. Lower the lift arm(s), shut off the engine and inspect the machine.



**Operate  
instruments  
and controls  
smoothly**



**Make sure  
attachment is  
properly coupled**

# Operate Safely

## Watch Out for Hazardous Working Conditions

Be alert for hazards. Know where you are at all times. Watch for branches, cables, or doorways.

**⚠ WARNING!** Avoid death or serious injury! **Never undercut a high bank.**

Extreme caution should be used when working along the tops of banks or slopes. Always operate the loader perpendicular to the bank. Keep away from the edge.

**⚠ WARNING!** **Never operate the machine close to the edge of an overhang or gully.** The edges could collapse or a slide could occur causing serious injury or death.

Use caution when working along docks, runways, banks and slopes. Keep away from the edges of drop-offs.

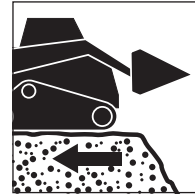
### **Stay alert! Cave-ins can be hazardous!**

Use caution when working beneath an overhang.

Use caution when backfilling. Do not get too close to the trench wall. The combined weight of the equipment and the load could cause the trench wall to give way.



**Never undercut  
a high bank**



**Operate  
perpendicular to  
banks – stay back  
from the edge**

When working near hazardous conditions, have a spotter work with you to look for dangers. Make certain they stay a safe distance from your machine.

Be careful when handling materials such as rocks, gas cylinders, barrels, etc. Lifting too high and rolling the bucket too far back could result in these materials falling into the operator's compartment. Special enclosures to restrict material from entering cab openings (with a polycarbonate door, for example) may be available for use with certain attachments. Check with your dealer.

# Operate Safely

## Traveling on Jobsite

Take it slow and easy when traveling through congested areas. Traffic courtesies pays off.

Give the right-of-way to loaded machines. Maintain a safe distance from other machines. Pass cautiously.

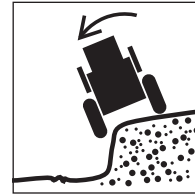
Don't obstruct your vision when traveling or working. (See page 22, **Masked Visibility Areas.**) Carry the bucket **LOW** for maximum stability and visibility while traveling. Operate at speeds slow enough so you have complete control at all times. If possible, avoid travel over rough, slippery or uneven terrain, and on hillsides.

## Travel Safely

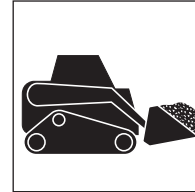
Always have the lift arm(s) down when traveling or turning. Plan the operation to load, unload and turn on flat, level ground.

Never ram the bucket into a material pile. Skid steer loaders have more force at slow speeds.

When traveling over rough terrain, **SLOW DOWN** to prevent losing control.



Use caution –  
stay safely away  
from bank or  
excavation edge



Keep loads low  
when traveling

Both tracked and wheeled loaders can drop down suddenly if you are traveling over uneven surfaces like curbs, ramps or similar types of surfaces. If you cannot avoid these types of operating conditions, drive slowly when you approach these types of uneven surfaces to avoid spilling your load or tipping the machine. **ALWAYS CARRY THE LOAD LOW.**

Raise loads slowly and at an even rate, and be ready to lower the load quickly if the machine becomes unstable.