

SAFETY ALERT

Lost Time

November 11, 2017

Potential Hazards

- Complacency, as typically the booster axle will only slide a short distance before coming to a stop when it comes in contact with the road.
- Not following the proper safe work procedures.
- Completing work on icy ground that was not flat.
- Standing in the “line of fire” or “bite”.



Incident Summary

- A low bed operator attempted to disconnect the booster axle from the beavertail of a low bed trailer before disconnecting the air supply first.
- The ground was frozen and icy so the booster axle slipped off and slid a greater distance than normally is the case before coming to a complete stop.
- The operator's leg was fractured when it got “pinched” in between the booster axle and trailer.

Preventative Actions

- Review safe work procedures with all operators:
 - Only attempt to disconnect the booster axle on level ground.
 - Disconnect the air supply to the booster axle and ensure brakes have engaged before proceeding.
 - Caulk wheels on booster axle to ensure it cannot slide or roll away.
 - Disconnect the booster from the trailer.
 - When all clear, slowly pull the tractor trailer ahead allowing the booster axle to slide off.
 - Never stand in the “line of fire” and stay clear of the “bite”.



SAFETY COMES FIRST

...and it starts with the person you see in the mirror.

