

SAFETY ALERT

Equipment Hazards and Safe Operations

Date of Incident: January 9, 2019

Incident Type: Lost Time

Location: Coastal Woodlands

Job Position: Loader Operator



Summary:

A Front End Loader Operator sustained a serious cut between fingers, requiring surgery.

- A Loader (966H) was travelling on a dry land sort carrying a very heavy load of 3 Hemlock logs (max load or overweight). Operator was wearing seat belt.
- The operator slowed and turned on the approach to a log bunk.
- Inertia caused front of machine to dip with grapple hitting pavement.
- The back end of loader lifted off the ground and the operator released a large log from the grapple. This caused the rear to abruptly drop.
- The loader violently shook and operator's hand flung approx 8 inches, catching finger in a metal latch (originally hood latch type, with after market change made).

Key Learnings and Recommendations:

- Equipment must be inspected and records kept for unsafe working conditions. This includes: sharp objects, guarding, escape hatches and other safety devices, hazards from modifications, ergonomics and maintenance issues.
- Manufacturer's specified payloads must not be exceeded and operators must travel at safe speeds. Extra time is required to stop when carrying loads.
- Supervisors must regularly observe equipment for care and control while logs are handled/moved.
- Unsafe equipment must be locked-out immediately with repairs done and/or hazards removed prior to operating.

For more information on this Alert, please contact:

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