



# Customer Focus on Loss Control

*Innovative Safety and Health Solutions<sup>SM</sup>*

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## Safety Tips For Operators of Heavy Earth-Moving Equipment

Operators of heavy earth-moving equipment must be well trained and must know the hazards associated with heavy equipment operations. Observe these common precautions:

### **Driving And Operating**

- Before starting any equipment, be certain that it has been inspected and serviced according to the regular schedule.
- Before hooking up equipment, make sure any attachments are lowered, the shift lever is in neutral, and the brakes are set.
- Make sure everyone is clear before moving or backing up.
- Never leave a machine on an incline with the engine running. Vibration may put the machine into motion.
- Never allow people to ride on the equipment.
- When operating equipment on an active road, display flashing lights and a slow vehicle triangle.
- Never coast down a hill.
- When working near trees, watch for dead branches (“widow-makers”) above the equipment.
- Use great care when working near the edges of cuts or fills.
- Most mobile equipment is required to be ROPS equipped. Be sure equipment is properly equipped.



### **Maintenance and Repair**

- Shut off engines during refueling.
- Shut off equipment before making repairs.
- When equipment is under repair, place a sign “Under Repair” in the seat, remove the start key, or lock out the controls.

### **Parking and Security**

- Always lower attachments and set the parking brake before dismounting the equipment.
- Always set the brake, lower the equipment, and place the shift lever in neutral at the end of each work shift.
- Secure the equipment when finished for the day. Make sure it is clear of traffic. If it is not clear, mark it with flares or red lights. Lock it up.