

## Mobile Equipment Safety on Construction Sites



Mobile equipment is important for the efficient operation of any construction site. However, it also presents significant hazards that can lead to accidents, injuries, and even fatalities if not properly managed. This toolbox talk will cover the key safety practices for working with and around mobile equipment to ensure everyone goes home safely at the end of the day.

### Key Points:

#### 1. Types of Mobile Equipment:

- Common mobile equipment on construction sites includes forklifts, bulldozers, cranes, loaders, backhoes, excavators, and dump trucks.
- Each type of equipment has specific hazards associated with its operation.

#### 2. Pre-Operational Inspections:

- **Importance:** Before using any mobile equipment, conduct a thorough inspection to ensure it's in safe working condition.
- **Check:**
  - Tires or tracks for wear and tear.
  - Fluid levels (oil, hydraulic fluid, coolant).
  - Lights, mirrors, and backup alarms.
  - Controls and brakes.
  - Check for any leaks or damaged parts.
- **Documentation:** Record all inspections in the equipment logbook.

#### 3. Safe Operation Practices:

- **Operator Training:** Only trained and authorized personnel should operate mobile equipment.
- **Seatbelts:** Always wear seatbelts when operating or riding in mobile equipment.
- **Blind Spots:** Be aware of blind spots. Use mirrors and spotters if necessary.
- **Speed Limits:** Adhere to site-specific speed limits and slowdown in congested areas.
- **Load Limits:** Never exceed the equipment's rated load capacity. Secure loads properly to prevent shifting.
- **Communication:** Use clear hand signals or radios to communicate with other workers when moving equipment.

### 2. Pedestrian Safety:

- **Stay Alert:** Pedestrians must stay alert when working near mobile equipment.
- **Designated Paths:** Use designated walkways and avoid walking behind or in the path of moving equipment.
- **High-Visibility Clothing:** Always wear high-visibility vests or clothing.
- **Spotters:** Use spotters to guide equipment in areas with heavy pedestrian traffic.

### 3. Hazard Identification:

- **Uneven Terrain:** Be cautious of operating equipment on uneven or unstable ground. It can cause equipment to tip over.
- **Overhead Hazards:** Watch for overhead power lines, bridges, and structures.
- **Weather Conditions:** Be aware of how weather conditions (rain, snow, fog) can affect equipment handling and visibility.

### 4. Emergency Procedures:

- **Equipment Malfunction:** If equipment malfunctions, stop operations immediately and report the issue.
- **Accident Response:** Know the emergency procedures and how to respond if an accident involving mobile equipment occurs. This includes first aid and notifying supervisors.
- **Fire Safety:** Be aware of fire risks, particularly with fuel-operated equipment, and know the location of fire extinguishers.

Safety around mobile equipment is everyone's responsibility. By following these safety practices, we can minimize risks and ensure a safe working environment. Remember, the best way to avoid accidents is through vigilance, proper training, and adherence to safety protocols.



# Safety Meeting Sign-Off Sheet

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Competent Person Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Competent Person Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Topic: Mobile Equipment on A Construction Site

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Attendees:	