SKID STEER RUN OVER INCIDENT

Safety Topic V6-0648 | Incidents, Heavy Equipment

A worker was struck by a skid-steer loader while exiting from a tarp-enclosed area at the work site. At the time of the incident, the worker was in a crouched position moving backwards while pulling a wheelbarrow.

The tarp-enclosed area had been set up to protect employees from the weather but there was no designated entrance or exit location. The only way to get in or out of the area was to lift up the tarp and crawl out in a crouched posture.

The victim was not visible to the skid-steer loader operator, and he was killed when he was struck and run over.

NIOSH MA Case Report 07-MA-019



Similar location of the incident with a tarp-enclosed area.



Skid-steer loader similar to the one involved in the incident.

- Tarp-enclosed areas on the work site should have designated entrance/exit openings for workers.
- Warning devices, like signs or cones, should be placed at locations where workers on foot are entering work areas occupied by heavy equipment, like loaders.
- Workers on foot at the job site should always stay a safe distance from heavy equipment, only use the designated walkways, and wear high-visibility safety vests or clothing.
- All workers at the job site must have training that allows them to work safely around heavy equipment.

Discussion

Images: NIOSH MA Case Report 07-MA-019

What are some actions that may have prevented this tragic accident?

How can ground workers move around safely on a job site with heavy equipment?

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