



## Mounting & Dismounting - Excavators

This Safety Talk is to raise awareness of workplace hazards that can cause a MSI. An injury that results in a strain, sprain, torn muscle, tendon, ligament or joint is called a MSI (musculoskeletal injury).

Entering or exiting an excavator can be a hazard if not done properly. Slips and falls are common causes of injury. The following safety information will provide you with training on assessing hazards that could lead to a MSI and instruct on implementing control measures to prevent a MSI.

### Risk Assessment/Hazards

These risks and hazards have been identified to cause injuries:

- Mud or grease on footwear
- Slippery or obstructed equipment surfaces
- Cluttered or uneven landing area
- Torn or loose clothing catching on equipment parts
- Using incorrect hand and foot placement
- Entering or exiting equipment in a hurry
- Jumping from equipment



### Control Measures/Safeguards

Please take care and caution and follow these safe work procedures to prevent you from injury:

#### Before entering equipment

- Ensure footwear is clear of dirt, oil and grease.
- Remove any mud, snow, ice, grease, or any other substance from equipment ladders.
- Steps and handrails should be secure.
- Avoid loose or torn clothing.

#### Getting on the machine

- Make sure the machine is off and all boom attachments are lowered.
- Face the excavator when climbing up and maintain 3 point contact.
- Don't climb up with anything in your hand.
- Take your time entering the machine.
- Ensure that you have a solid grip on the handles before stepping up.
- Avoid contact with machine controls.

#### Exiting your machine

- Position the machine on even ground when possible.
- Make sure the machine is off and all boom attachments are lowered.
- Face the excavator when climbing down and maintain 3 point contact.
- Don't climb down with anything in your hand.
- Take your time exiting the machine.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Watch for obstacles when dismounting such as rocks, or ice.

### Thought Provoking Questions

Do you practice 3 points of contact when entering or exiting your machine?

Do you keep your footwear clean and free of mud?

Do you remind others to be safe when you witness a coworker doing an unsafe act?

