

Extract wood and wood products using motorised machines

Overview

This standard is about extracting wood and wood products using motorised machines such as tractors, ATV adaptations, compact skidders and "iron horse" or similar tracked machines.

When working with machinery you need to be appropriately trained, and hold current certification where required, in line with relevant legislation.

Your work must conform to all relevant legislation and codes of practice when carrying out this work.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess risks associated with the site and the proposed work
2. select and implement appropriate working methods, in accordance with the assessed risks
3. select and use the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the work
4. plan how you will carry out the work
5. select the right motorised machine and other tools and equipment, such as trailers, for the work you are doing
6. maintain the security of machinery and equipment on site
7. select, prepare and maintain access and egress routes in a serviceable condition
8. safely load and unload motorised machine from transporter where required
9. prepare the machine and equipment by carrying out pre-use checks and adjustments, in accordance with specifications, including all safety guards
10. check the immediate work area for hazards and obstacles before operating the machine and use the correct warning signals at all times
11. operate and manoeuvre the machine safely, and in a way that is consistent with the type of machine, weather, ground conditions, types of terrain and site restraints
12. deal with any hazards or obstacles encountered during the operation, in accordance with standard practice
13. utilise additional safeguards when reversing or manoeuvring and comply with safety distances adjacent to roads and tracks or where others are working
14. maintain the efficiency of the machine through appropriate handling and maintenance
15. extract wood and wood products effectively and efficiently using agreed extraction routes
16. grade and separate wood and wood products, in accordance with the specification
17. accumulate wood and wood products in the agreed area, to facilitate uplift and onward dispatch
18. stop and isolate the machine on completion of the activity and leave secure and in a suitable condition for future use
19. ensure the site is left in a condition which meets environmental requirements, in accordance with the specification
20. maintain the health and safety of yourself and others at all times, in accordance with relevant legislation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. how to interpret risk assessments
3. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment (PPE)
4. site procedures including communication systems and emergency planning
5. why it is important to maintain the safety and security of machinery and equipment on site
6. the importance of planning how you will carry out the work
7. how to select the right motorised machine and the advantages and disadvantages of using different machines to extract wood and wood products
8. the requirements for machine and operator protection structures
9. the procedure for loading and unloading the machine from transporter where required
10. the need for and benefits of carrying out routine operator checks and basic maintenance and repair in line with the manufacturer's recommendations
11. the legal requirements for checking equipment
12. how to mount and dismount the machine safely
13. how to start and stop the machine including the correct process for jump starting
14. the function of all controls and instruments for the machine, including on board computer systems where fitted
15. how to interpret product specifications and sort the produce into product categories during loading
16. the capabilities and limitations of the motorised machine used, including slope limitations and the maximum safe working load
17. how to select suitable extraction routes
18. the implications of terrain, ground conditions, season, weather, load and timber type/condition on planning access routes and driving the machine
19. the effect of unbalanced loads on extraction
20. the methods of grading, stacking and handling products
21. the potential impact of your work on the environment and how this can be minimised
22. your responsibilities under relevant environmental, health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Use one or more of the following:

- tractors
- ATV adaptations
- compact skidders and "iron horse"
- similar tracked machines

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Glossary

Specifications:

- drawings
- schedules
- method statements
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)
- manufacturers' guidelines
- customer requirements

Operator environment:

- seat
- steering wheel
- mirrors
- seat belt

Ground conditions:

- Wet
- Dry
- Frost
- Ice
- Mud
- Loose ground

Terrain:

- hard surfaces
- soft surfaces
- uneven surfaces
- slopes

Protection structures:

- Operator Protective Structures (OPS)
- Roll Over Protective Structures (ROPS)
- Falling Object Protective Structures (FOPS)

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