

## Be Aware When Near Construction Equipment



Any moving equipment such as skid steers, back hoes, trenchers, cranes, hi-lifts, trucks, you name it, should be respected and avoided. Don't just assume that the operator sees you. You could wind up injured or worse. And don't depend on hearing a horn or an alarm to warn you that moving equipment is near. You may not be able to hear the equipment's alarm over other construction noise.

When you see that equipment is traveling backwards keep out of the way and stand clear until the operator has completed his maneuver. Never cut across the path behind any unit while it is backing. You could easily trip and fall under the equipment.

For the same reason you should never ride on the running boards, steps or drawbar or any equipment, even for a short distance. The time it takes to get off will be much less than the time lost if you fall or the unit tips over.

Watch out for swinging counterweights on equipment such as cranes. Make sure there is enough room for workers to pass and if there is not - shut off the area to any access.

Never ride on or near material that is being transported by equipment. The load could shift and you can be thrown to the ground. Also, clearance may not allow for your position and you can be crushed between overhead or side obstructions.

Never walk alongside moving equipment. Keep in the clear in case it slides or turns, or the load shifts.

Don't walk under loads on forklifts, cranes and hoists. Always take the path that avoids danger.

The safest this to do around construction equipment is keep away while the equipment is in operation. If you must be near the equipment, make sure the operator knows you are working nearby and stay alert. Keeping your mind on where you are in relation to the equipment will not only prevent injuries but could save your life!