



Additional Mulcher/Gyro-Trac Safe Work Procedure

CAGC INFORMATION ALERT

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Hazard Identification

It has come to the attention of the CAGC that additional hazards have been identified that were not addressed in CAGC's Safety Bulletin 2001-16. These specific hazards deal with some of the older models of Gyro-Trac/Mulchers that were not equipped with an escape hatch in the roof.

We need to be especially cautious right now given the soft ground conditions and the slightly frozen winter conditions that we are currently experiencing.

Recommended Operating Procedures

- Operators should be trained in operation of heavy equipment on soft terrain (almost everyone assumes that these operators are ex-cat operators, however, this is not always the case);
- Companies that are operating these machines without escape hatches need to develop safe work procedures to deal with situations such as breaking through soft musket, beaver dams, etc. It is also their responsibility to train their operators according to the procedures.

Suggested Procedure

While crossing any soft terrain, always ensure that the operator has a means of escape in case the machine sinks far enough to block the doors from opening. In some cases, when operating a machine without an escape hatch the door may be braced in the open position while traversing this terrain. Doors should be closed during normal operation on solid terrain to ensure flying chunks of wood and metal do not hit the operator.