



# Toolbox Safety Talks

## Heavy Equipment – Power lines

- 1) What are the hazards involved with power line contact?
  - a. Electrocution
  - b. Fires
- 2) What hazards should you be aware of?
  - a. Know where the power lines are at your operation and watch for them when you're in the area.
  - b. Take note if anything is different about the lines, such as hanging lower or missing (which could mean they're on the ground)
  - c. Check for power lines near buildings or weigh stations, in storage yards, any lighted area, or near cranes or scaffolds
  - d. Look for barriers underneath power lines, warning signs, or high visibility spheres on the lines themselves
  - e. When you approach power lines, make sure your machine (boom arms, truck bodies, etc.) is as low as it can go. If you aren't sure if it's low enough, stop and make sure
- 3) What safe practices should be used when contact is made?
  - a. Stay calm and stop your machine
  - b. Use a retarder and the service brake to make the stop—and the secondary brake if needed. Depending on the machine, you may be able to downshift one gear to allow the engine to absorb some of the energy and slow the machine
  - c. Shift to neutral, set the parking brake and shut down your engine
  - d. Call for assistance
  - e. Stay in the cab until someone comes and checks the location of the line. Remember, you can't see everything around and under your machine. It may look safe to you, but someone on the ground can see more and make a better judgment. Operators are often injured when they try to leave an electrified machine
- 4) Do we have any power lines on our site to be aware of?
- 5) Has anyone been in a situation where contact was made with a power line? Why?
- 6) Why do we stay in the machine if contact is made with power lines?



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Date Presented: \_\_\_\_\_

Presented By: \_\_\_\_\_

### Attendance Sheet




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