



Yarder Operator Safety & Health Program Training Guide Supplement

Employee Name: _____ Date: _____
(Print)

The following is a supplement to company specific training, other training aids, and the applicable provisions of the Division Seven Forest Activities Code that apply to the job title listed above.

- Only authorized employees will be permitted to operate any company equipment or power tools.
- As the Yarder Operator you have the central role in the overall production and safety of the operation. In order for your job to be done in a safe manner, one of the things you will need to know is how you as a Yarder Operator will interact with the employees and other machinery on the job site.
- Yarders pose a possible hazard to employees who may be working on the ground. Knowing where Chasers and other employees position themselves will be vital for the safe operation of the Yarder. Develop with the Chaser a communication system so you understand what the Chaser is asking of you, or expects from you. Good communication between you and these employees is vital for their safety. In order for you to better understand their duties you could read the AOL Training Guide Supplement for Chaser, and others if applicable. If supervising or directing the work activities of one or more employees the AOL Supervisors Training Guide Supplement should be completed.
- Another possible hazard could be created when working in close proximity to other logging machines on a landing. Pay particular attention to the swing radius of any De-Limber, Log Loader, or other machine on the landing. Maintain a minimum distance of at least three (3) feet between the rotating superstructure of these machines and the Yarder. Before the Yarder is operated you should make a visual check of the landing in order to insure no counter weight swing will be within three (3) feet of the Yarder. Inform your supervisor immediately if the three-foot minimum distance cannot be maintained.
- Have a clear unobstructed view of the direction of travel when moving the Yarder. Keep the windows clean. Report any window in the machine with cracks or defects to your supervisor. There will be persons on the ground in the area of the Yarder when it is being transported, or being prepared for transport between one place and another. Any person on the ground acting as a signal person should be kept in sight. Never move the machine or any line if you are uncertain of a hand signal, or of the location of any person(s) on the ground.
- Read and become familiar with the manufacturers Operator's Manual before you operate the Yarder. Know where the manual for your machine is kept, and refer to it when making repairs or when performing maintenance. Do Not exceed the manufacturers recommended load capacities, or operating guidelines.

- Inspect the Yarder each day before starting work. Any repairs or adjustments must be made before any strain or load is placed upon the machine.
- Do not neglect to properly service and maintain your machine. Check the fluid levels daily and keep them within the manufacturer's recommended operating levels. Do not operate a Yarder with defective brakes, steering, or other critical parts. Report any problems with the machine to your Supervisor immediately.
- Keep all manufacturers and other safety devices such as side screens, hand holds, steps, seat belts, ladders and etc. in good repair. Report any needed repairs to your Supervisor.
- Inspect and service the tower section frequently. Refer to the operator's manual for inspection points and use any time the tower is down as an opportunity to grease the many grease fittings on the tower. Check the tower while it is down for cracks, broken parts, or other signs of wear and tear that may need attention. Report any signs of the tower being in need of additional service to your supervisor.
- Arrange the lines (guylines, running lines, standing lines) so that there is no interference with their proper alignment. After road changes make sure all the lines have cleared up before work progresses. Never assume a line has cleared up, always check and make sure. Do not allow rigging and loads to foul against lines, straps, blocks, or other equipment when in use.
- Check the condition of all rigging on a regular basis, and remove any unsafe rigging immediately. Repair or replace any damaged blocks, shackles or other rigging. Keep blocks well lubricated and check for cracked or worn parts and loose nuts or bolts before use.
- Long splices must be used for joining running lines. Notify everyone on the crew if a jump splice is used as described by the exception to Oregon OSHA rule 437-007-0610 (10).
- Give notification to all crew members when a fuse link or operating procedures are used to limit loads imposed on lines because wire rope dimensionally larger in size or of greater breaking strength than that specified by the yarder manufacturer is used for skyline, guyline, skidding line, or haulback.
- Do not land any log until all personnel, trucks, machines, or vehicles are in the clear.
- Do not allow logs to accumulate in the landing chute to the point where they are unstable and a hazard to anyone in the landing chute.
- When chokers are being unhooked from logs manually, wait until you receive a clear signal from the Chaser that everyone is in the clear of the landing chute before moving any lines.
- When the yarder is being used to deck logs: Decks must be built in an orderly manner to minimize rolling and shifting. Logs must not be decked where they would roll or slide in the direction of people, vehicles, or machines.
- Your safety and the safety of your fellow employees may be greatly determined by your ability to be alert. Point out any hazards or safety concerns you have to your supervisor as you see them. Be attentive on the job site. Drug and/or alcohol use will not be tolerated, nor will horseplay or any other unsafe activity.

- Be observant of Dangers above and around you. Steep terrain, loose rocks, root wads, snags, and other hazards may be present. A supply of bright orange "Hazard Identification Ribbon" is kept on the job site for marking hazards. If you see hazard ribbon marking something in your work area it means that a hazardous condition exists. The Hazard Identification Ribbon will need to be discussed with your Supervisor and a safe way of eliminating or working around the hazard be determined.
 - Know the whistle system or voice command system being used by the rigging crew. Be sure of the whistles or voice commands being used before operations begin. If you ever have a question about a whistle or voice command, or are not sure of what you heard, stop and make sure before you move any line. When a whistle or voice command is not heard clearly repeat what you think you heard to the rigging crew, and then wait for their response before moving a line. An operational check of the radio equipment must be made before the start of each workday.
 - Choose proper approved footwear that will provide firm ankle support and secure footing. Getting onto and off from the Yarder will pose a possible tripping and falling hazard so make sure of your footing and hand holds and maintain 3 points of contact when mounting or dismounting. Move cautiously, avoid jumping and running.
 - All loggers not protected by a cab or canopy are required to wear a hard hat. Whenever you leave the cab or canopy on an active logging site you must wear a hard hat. Hard hats provide much needed protection so keep yours in top shape. Do not position yourself under overhead hazards. Being highly visible to others on the job site is important. Your hard hat should be brightly colored, or you can wear a brightly colored upper body cover such as a safety vest.
 - You will likely be helping splice and cut line. Always wear gloves when handling chokers or other line. Whenever line is being cut the person doing the cutting must wear eye protection. There are no exceptions for any type of line cutting device. Know where the eye protection is kept when it is not being used, and use it when cutting line.
 - Do not spool or allow other employees to spool line onto drums with their hands. Stop the operation and wait until a stick, iron bar or something suitable is available to spool the line with.
 - Keep the Yarder free of flammable material (oily rags, oil spills, dry leaves and twigs, etc.) which may create a fire or other hazard. Make sure there is an adequately charged fire extinguisher on the machine at all times, and check it periodically to make sure it is charged. Report any fire extinguisher that needs charged or is otherwise out of service to your supervisor. Remove any item being stored on the yarder which if it were to fall could strike and possibly injure an employee working on the ground below.
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- Do not allow anyone to ride hooks, lines, other rigging or logs being moved, or suggest to others that they do. Do not allow anyone to hold onto any moving line as an assist walking uphill or suggest that others do.
 - You may be called upon to operate a chain saw or another piece of logging equipment. Leg protection must be worn whenever a chain saw is used. Hearing protection must be worn when operating a chain saw.

- Do Not operate any equipment or chain saws until management has properly instructed and authorized you to do so.
- It is important for you to understand the company Lockout/Tagout Program for securing machines. Never remove a Lockout/Tagout device if you have not been authorized to do so. All authorized employees must demonstrate a working knowledge of the specific shut down procedures they are required to use. Do not attempt to start a machine with a Lockout/Tagout device in place. Bring any questions about the company Lockout/Tagout Program to your supervisor.
- No machinery should ever be operated within fifteen [15] feet of a high voltage power line. As the Yarder Operator, you will need to halt the operation if the Yarder, or any line attached to the yarder is in danger of getting within fifteen [15] feet of a high voltage power line. Advise your supervisor whenever this condition may exist.
- Medical services and First Aid. The Emergency Evacuation Information for the job site must be posted at the work site after one-day duration. Check and make sure this information is available whenever the operation moves to a new location. Emergency Evacuation Information must include both land directions to the job site, and the Township-Range and section numbers. All employees need to know the emergency evacuation radio/telephone procedure, and verify that they fully understand it.
- A well stocked first aid kit, blanket, and stretcher must be on the job site at all times. Know the location of these supplies and contact your supervisor if there are any questions.
- Secondary containers of chemicals (paints, saw gas, diesel, motor oil, etc.) must be labeled as to the contents. Maintain the labeling or marking procedures, and encourage the other employees to do the same.

Employee Signature: _____

Trainer Signature: _____