



Canadian Natural

SAFETY BULLETIN

Incident

A John Deere 644H-4WD industrial loader operator was seriously injured when he was struck by a chain in the face and chest. The loader operator turned the corner of the lease road to fast for road conditions and was pulled into the ditch. A chain/nylon sling combination was connected to a vacuum truck. The vacuum truck was used as an anchor and the loader operator moved the bucket up and down in an attempt to free the loader. In performing this maneuver the chain/nylon sling combination broke. The chain snapped backwards with enough force to propel itself through the corner of the loader's windshield, striking the loader operator.

Cause

“Using Equipment or Tools Incorrectly” - industry does not recommend a combination of chain/nylon sling (tow rope) to be used for the intent of towing.

Contributing Factors

The contributing factors of this incident are:

“Inadequate Work Procedure” – there was no JSA/Procedure/Hazard Assessment in place for towing stuck heavy equipment.

“Inadequate Training” – the loader operator was not adequately trained in the operation of the heavy equipment used.

Preventative Measures

This incident can be prevented by:

- Canadian Natural will ensure that service providers have a JSA/Procedure/Hazard assessment for towing stuck heavy equipment which includes an adequately sized sling or tow strap.
- Canadian Natural will communicate to service providers and sub contractors to be trained and to follow their own policies.
- Canadian Natural will develop and distribute a “Safety Bulletin” throughout its operations and with ENFORM for industry distribution.

Recommendation

Canadian Natural will re-enforce the regulatory requirements of “not to disturb the scene of a serious accident”.