MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself "Could it happen here?"

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

LOADER FIRE

As a loader operator gathered rejected logs at the reject bin he smelled smoke and looked behind and noticed a spark. He then radioed the mill and headed to the fire pump house to hose down what he initially thought was a smolder.

Large amounts of smoke billowed out the back of the loader and eventually developed into a full fire. The loader was parked in a safe spot away from any structures. The fire department was called to extinguish the fire. While the loader suffered catastrophic damage, no one was injured.

The Fire Investigator concluded that a hydraulic leak developed and was ignited by the turbo, and intensified by the reverse fan.

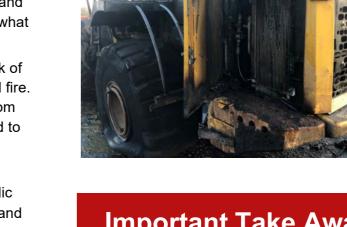
SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- If you suspect a fire, immediately park in the nearest safe spot and turn off the vehicle. Only attempt to extinguish a fire if it's small in an initial stage.
- Consider developing safe procedures for mobile equipment blowdown. Items to consider are frequency of blowdown and minimizing the potential for wood dust explosion.
- If mobile equipment is used in dusty areas (wood dust) consider blowing out the engine compartment at 4 hour intervals or at intervals to keep the compartment clear of combustibles.
- The mobile equipment pre-use inspection should include a visual check of the engine compartment for the buildup of combustibles.





BCFSC welcomes all incident or near-miss submissions. To protect your privacy, we will review and remove all identifying information.



Important Take Away

The buildup of combustible material in mobile equipment can cause catastrophic fires or explosions.

> Scan the QR Code with your mobile device's camera to access this alert



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