



Trucking & Harvesting Advisory Group

## Driving For Safety

### Rocks Dislodging from Logging Trucks

There have been numerous, very serious incidents involving rocks or other debris dislodging from logging trucks particularly during pre-breakup road conditions. Reports that rocks fell out of a load of logs, were ejected from between the truck or trailer tires, or had been “kicked-up” by a passing truck are not uncommon. These events in some cases have resulted in fatalities and serious injuries.



We can work together to avoid these incidents.

#### Supervisors

- Discuss debris in loads and tires during pre-work meetings. Identify and address areas that may be contributing to the issue such as areas of coarse rock in the mill yard or active haul roads or soft roads due to spring melt.

#### Loader Operators

- Locate log decks away from sites with road and logging debris that could inadvertently find its way into a load.
- Pay extra attention to right of way wood and wood harvested near areas where ripping of coarse rock or blasting occurred.
- If decking is required in areas with considerable debris or coarse rock, consider using brow logs to get the logs off the ground.
- Keep the loader lights well maintained, and the windshield clean. Good visibility is key to eliminating debris in the loads.

#### Truck drivers

- Look at all areas of the load, but also get down so you can see underneath and into the “belly” of the load.
- Look for rocks or other debris between all duals, particularly before entering public roads/highways.
- Check flat surfaces of your rigging (e.g. reach, frame rail, bunk / bolster) where a rock could be sitting, waiting to fall off. At 100 km/hr., a 7 cm (<3”) rock can penetrate a windshield!
- Pay close attention when you have been travelling through muddy sections, or where you have spied rocks that are “just the right size” to get stuck between the tires.
- Check mud flaps and fenders to ensure they are in good working order.

## Safe Driving is Good Business