

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Property Damage – Power Pole Contact

In September 2020, a loader operator had a rough bundle on the forks of the loader and was heading towards the rough lumber storage. The operator’s forks were raised to not obstruct his line of sight.

The operator did not notice a power pole in the immediate area. When operator turned left the bundle on his forks contacted the singular power pole, breaking the base of the pole.



Picture to show how operator was driving when contact with the power pole was made.



Picture to show how operator was driving when contact with the power pole was made.



Power Pole after struck by machine



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

1. Perform a crew talk with all lumber yard operators.
2. Review the Wheel-loader SWP, and Lumber Handling SWP including new powerline safety sheet.
3. Place barricades around the power poles.
4. Place reflectors on power lines in the yard.

Most Important Take Away

Identify all power poles and power lines in the mobile equipment operating areas. Use barricades, line reflectors or reflective ribbons to make these hazards more visible.

