



Driving For Safety

Mobile Equipment - Rollover or Tipover and Fire

[Occupational Health Safety \(OHS\) Regulation amendments to Part 16 - Mobile Equipment are currently in effect.](#) These amendments address mechanized harvesting operations using a feller buncher, a timber harvester or a timber processor with a significant risk of rollover or tipover when operating on a sloped forest worksite other than a road or landing.

The regulation has been in effect since late summer 2021, however, there are still some questions being raised within the forest industry regarding WSBC's interpretation and how that translates to operational implementation. The following information has been provided by WSBC by request to provide clarity.



Points for clarification:

Question 1 - How is "timber harvester" being interpreted within the regulation? (i.e., what equipment does this term apply to).

WSBC Response:

16.38 Rollover or tipover and fire applies to the following mobile equipment:

- (a) **a feller buncher;**
- (b) **a timber harvester;** - any type of heavy forestry vehicle employed in cut-to-length logging operations for felling, delimiting and bucking trees.
- (c) **a timber processor** with a significant risk of rollover or tipover when operating on a sloped forest worksite other than a road or a landing.

This section of the regulation does not include hoe chucker's, skidders, or dozers. Remember that these are minimum requirements, and that a due diligence assessment may suggest adopting the higher standard of safeguarding for escape tools and fire extinguishers.

Question 2 - How are areas “with a significant risk of rollover” defined?

WSBC Response:

The previous part 16 definition for "no significant hazard of rollover" means an area in which there are no grades exceeding 10%, no operating areas with open edges, no open ramps, loading areas, ditches or other similar hazards which might cause a rollover; it could be assumed that any area over 10 % grade could pose a significant risk of rollover.

Question 3 - What is the expectation on escape “hatches”?

16.24 Alternative means of escape from a cab - The regulation and the associated guideline outline in detail what is required: Also see Guideline G16.24 as it provides more details around what is acceptable. It also explains the limitations of any window breaking devices.

- (1) If mobile equipment manufactured after January 1, 2000 has a single cab entrance door, the mobile equipment must have **an alternative means of escape that is clearly marked both inside and outside the cab and that**
 - (a) is **not located on the same surface** as the cab entrance door,
 - (b) is **usable regardless of the position of movable components or accessories of the machine,**
 - (c) **does not pose additional hazards** to the operator,
 - (d) **can be opened from both the inside and outside without the use of tools** when the mobile equipment is in use,
 - (e) requires **a force of not more than 135 N (30.3 lbf) to open,** and
 - (f) **provides a clear opening,** the minimum dimensions of which comply with ISO Standard 2867-2011(R2016), Earth-moving machinery - Access systems.
- (2) Mobile equipment manufactured before January 1, 2000, with a single cab entrance door must meet the requirements for an alternative means of escape required at the date of manufacture.

Equipment Rollover and Emergency Response: https://www.bcforestsafesafe.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/TAG_Equipment-Rollovers-280119.pdf

WSBC Part 16: <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/occupational-health-safety/searchable-ohs-regulation/ohs-regulation/part-16-mobile-equipment>

WSBC Guideline 16.24 – [WorkSafeBC](#)

Safe Driving is Good Business