

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Level Ground Incident (Wood Pellets)

While attempting to unload wood pellets using an end-dump trailer on uneven ground, a sub-contractor flipped their cab and trailer. The driver was standing on the step of the cab while engaging the end-dump controls. The driver did not use the bar provided to engage end-dump controls (as per policy) and was thrown from the cab when it rolled.

The company's policy clearly stated the level indicator on both trailer A and B needs to be checked to ensure ground is level before dumping. The level indicator on trailer A was missing and the trailer B indicator showed the ground was uneven. Despite this, the driver continued to dump disregarding company policy.



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Always park on level ground before raising the end-dump.
- Never operate end-dump controls from the cab step. Use push levers from the ground using a device or remote control.
- Have maintenance teams verify that all level indicators are present and functioning properly.
- Conduct regular reviews of end-dump operating procedures with all drivers.
- Conduct a thorough risk assessment of ground conditions to determine if it is safe to use end-dumps.
- Notify the site to inform them when end-dumps are on site and unload during daylight hours if possible.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKEAWAY

Always prioritize safety with end-dumps by parking on level ground, using ground-level controls and conducting risk assessments of ground conditions.

BCFSC and WPAC would like to thank the company that submitted the incident for this safety alert.



BC Forest Safety

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