

# MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

**Ask Yourself**  
*"Could it happen here?"*

## DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

### **Loader Incident**

During a routine operator switchover, smoke was spotted coming from the engine bay of a 624K Loader. When the relief operator opened the compartment panel, they found smoke and glowing embers around and beneath the engine.

Operators in the area quickly responded using a fire extinguisher and hose to extinguish the embers and clear out built-up wood fiber and dust. Thanks to their fast response, they prevented a potentially serious fire.

Equipment in this area is regularly exposed to to high levels of wood fiber and dust, which can quickly build up—especially in engine compartments—and pose a significant fire risk if not cleaned regularly.



## SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Clean wood dust and fibre thoroughly every day and night.
- Pay extra attention to high-risk areas like engine compartments, electrical panels and hot surfaces.
- Operators should keep a close eye out during inspections and cleaning routines for accumulated wood fibre and dust.



## MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

**Regular maintenance and housekeeping are essential to reducing fire risk.**

**Consider performing engine blowdowns every four (4) hours to prevent build-up.**

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

BCFSC welcomes all incident and near-miss submissions from all sectors of the forest industry.

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