

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Serious Incident – Vehicle Damage Mobile Equipment Tip – Over (SIF)

A contractor loader operator was driving downhill from the upper parking lot to lower woods lot to plow snow. When they rounded the corner at the top of the hill, the loader lost control and started sliding downhill with the wheels locked up.

As the loader continued to slide, the operator tried to steer away from a light pole at the bottom of the hill. While turning the wheels, the tires contacted a section of loose gravel beneath the fresh snow, suddenly digging in and causing the loader to tip onto its side.



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Update Snow Removal Safe Work Procedures (SWPs) to include clear requirements for hill and slope control, approved plowing methods on inclines and mandatory blade-down requirements in defined areas.
- Require proof of training and competency from heavy equipment contractors.
- Define contractor snow removal controls process.
- Implement annual contractor site indoctrination.
- Develop contractor snow removal hazard & control maps.
- Create snow removal call-in and authorization instructions.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Only trained and authorized workers who understand site-specific hazards and controls should perform snow removal.