

# ABC Mississippi Toolbox Talk – By: Scott Russell, APAC-MS

## Jacking and Blocking (Lockout/Tag out)

### De-energize and Secure

Recently an employee was performing maintenance on a front end loader bucket. While performing this maintenance the loader operator accidentally engaged the bucket control lowering the bucket onto the employee's leg causing multiple fractures to his leg and ankle.

When people hear the words Lockout Tag out they usually think about electricity and going through the process of turning off a control switch or circuit. However, LOTO is much more than that.

**Blocking, Bracing, Supporting and generally preventing machinery parts from moving are all critical when performing maintenance activities. Especially when performing maintenance on mobile equipment.**

Figure 1 No Block or Brace provided for elevated bucket



Figure 2 & 3 Elevated component properly secured



- No person should ever work on, under, or from raised portions of mobile equipment or a component of mobile equipment until the equipment has been **blocked, cribbed or mechanically secured** to prevent falling or shifting.
- Blocking and supporting of raised components must **prevent a "free and uncontrolled descent"** in the event of a sudden failure of the system holding up the raised component (*i.e. hydraulic or air system failure*).
- Bulldozer and scraper blades, end-loader buckets, dump bodies, and similar equipment must be either fully lowered or blocked when being repaired or when not in use.
- All controls must be in a neutral position, with the motors stopped and brakes set, unless work being performed requires otherwise.
- Review the manufacturer's operation & maintenance manual for safety precautions and recommended blocking/securing procedures **BEFORE**

**Elevated equipment or equipment components can cause serious injury or death if improperly supported.**

**Safety Topic  
Jacking & Blocking**

**Supervisor or Talk Leader's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Job/Facility Name** \_\_\_\_\_

My name and corresponding signature below signify that I have received and understand the training information titled above. I also had the opportunity to ask questions on the subject matter. I further agree that I will comply with the safety expectations of my company, including the information outlined in these safety topics, as applicable to my work.

**Print Name**

**Signature**

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**Did an employee other than the foreman/supervisor give this safety meeting or make a notable contribution? If yes, please enter their name here:** \_\_\_\_\_

**What additional information did the employee discuss?** \_\_\_\_\_  
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