Blocking Raised Equipment Stats and Facts

FACTS

1. Never rely on the jack or system that was used to lift or operate the load to securely support the load vehicle you are under.
2. Review the complete Standard Operating Practices for this work every year or at the start of the season when you will be using this type of equipment.
3. Machines and equipment should be supported with the manufacturer’s safety bracing system. If it is not available, use solid wood blocking on solid work surfaces according to the manufacturer’s instructions.
4. Freight should be blocked when loading or unloading a trailer. Do not use other freight as a block. Use proper materials for blocking.
5. Use larger blocks on the bottom. Make the platform as wide as possible.

STATS

- 65 fatalities were attributed to pinning between the bucket and frame or between the loader lift arms and frame, but no loader type was identified. A number of these fatalities may have involved skid steer loaders.
- 37 work-related fatalities involving skid steer loaders. These fatalities resulted from the following types of incidents:
- Pinning between the bucket and frame of the machine or between the lift arms and frame 29 (78%) of victims.
- The 29 fatalities involving pinning between the bucket and frame or between the lift arms and frame resulted from the following activities:
- 10 victims by working or standing under a raised loader

bucket

- 8 victims by leaning out of the operator’s compartment into the path of the moving lift arms (pinned against frame)
- 5 victims by entering or exiting (pinned between bucket and frame)
- 20 work related fatalities involving skid steer loaders. Of these 20 fatalities, 14 (70%) involved pinning between the loader bucket and frame or between the lift arms and frame.