

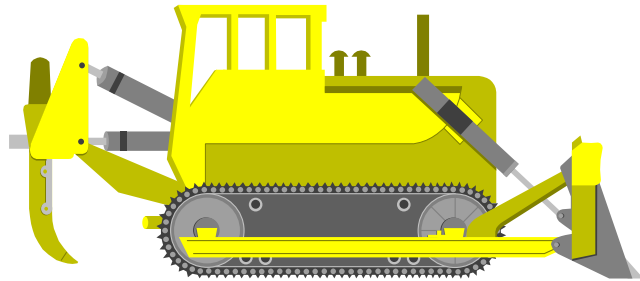
CUSTOMER FOCUS ON LOSS CONTROL

NUMBER 8

Backing Heavy Equipment *Safely*

Many construction equipment operations require the use of bi-directional equipment. Backing up heavy equipment is always risky business. Vehicles such as dump trucks, bulldozers, front-end loaders, and concrete trucks have blind spots during backing. When backing is absolutely necessary, certain precautions should always be observed.

- Walk around the equipment before starting. Get familiar with the area.
- Keep non essential equipment and people out of the area.
- Keep mirrors properly adjusted.
- Be sure that back up alarms, which are mandatory on all bi-directional equipment, are functional.
- Always keep the spotter in full view during dumping operations.
- Always be familiar with the limitations of the equipment.



The idea is to be sure that everyone watches out for his or her own safety. Problems develop when someone forgets this! Thousands of pounds of construction equipment are not forgiving when they make contact with the human body. As an equipment operator, you have the responsibility to use this power with wisdom and care.

The professional equipment operator never assumes the path is clear unless it can be seen or unless a guide can verify that it is clear.

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