

COMPANY STANDARDS FOR CUTTERS & SKIDDER OPERATORS

1. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:

CUTTER: CUTTER BOOTS, CUTTER PANTS OR CHAPS, CUTTER MITTS OR GLOVES, CSA-APPROVED HARD HAT, FACE SCREEN OR SAFETY GLASSES, EAR MUFFS OR PLUGS AND HI-VISIBILITY CLOTHING.

SKIDDER OPERATOR: CUTTER BOOTS, DOUBLE -PALMED MITTS OR GLOVES, CSA-APPROVED HARD HAT, FACE SCREEN OR GOGGLES, EAR MUFFS OR PLUGS (IF OVER 90 dB) AND HI-VISIBILITY CLOTHING.

2. POWER SAW:

- MUST BE EQUIPPED WITH: OPERATING CHAIN BRAKE, SAFETY THROTTLE, CHAIN CATCHER AND SAFETY CHAIN
- MUST HAVE SAW CHAIN PROPERLY TENSIONED, SHARPENED AND FILED ACCORDING TO THE MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATIONS & MAINTAINED IN A SAFE OPERATING CONDITION
- MUST BE STARTED AND THE GROUND, ON A STUMP OR WITH THE LEG LOCK METHOD
- MUST BE HELD FIRMLY WITH BOTH HANDS WHILE CUTTING & HAVE THE CHAIN STOPPED WHEN NOT CUTTING
- IS TO BE CARRIED SHORT DISTANCES WITH THE LEFT HAND ON THE FORWARD HANDLE AND THE RIGHT HAND OFF THE SAW
- IS TO BE CARRIED GREATER DISTANCES WITH THE ENGINE STOPPED

3. FELLING:

- BEFORE FELLING LIVE TREES, ALL SPRING POLES & CHICOTS IN THE FELLING AREA ARE TO BE CAREFULLY LOWERED TO THE GROUND
- ALL CHICOTS ARE TO BE ASSESSED & WHERE SAFE TO DO SO, CAREFULLY CUT WITH A POWERSAW, OTHERWISE LOWERED USING THE FAIRLEAD OF THE SKIDDER (PUSHPOLES MAY BE REQUIRED WHERE SKIDDER ACCESS IS NOT POSSIBLE)
- NO TREES ARE TO BE FELLED UNLESS EVERYONE IS CLEAR OF THE DANGER AREA
- THE BASE OF THE TREE AND AT LEAST ONE ESCAPE ROUTE (BACK AND AWAY AT 45 DEGREES) ARE TO BE CLEARED OF HAZARDS BEFORE FELLING
- TREE LEAN, WIND DIRECTION AND SPEED, ICE OR SNOW LOADING, OPTIMUM SKIDDING & DAMAGE TO OTHER TREES ARE TO BE ASSESSED BEFORE NOTCHING
- WEDGES ARE TO BE CARRIED AT ALL TIMES AND USED WHEN REQUIRED TO ASSIST IN DIRECTIONAL FELLING
- CONVENTIONAL, V OR HUMBOLT NOTCHES ARE TO CUT TO PROPER DEPTH AND OPENING
- OVERCUT NOTCHES ARE TO BE CORRECTED BEFORE THE BACK CUT IS MADE
- BACK CUTS ARE TO BE FLAT AND LEVEL AND 1 TO 2 INCHES ABOVE THE NOTCH
- A HINGE OF ABOUT 1/10 OF THE TREE DIAMETER (MAXIMUM OF ABOUT 2") IS TO BE LEFT TO GUIDE THE TREE AS IT FALLS
- HANGUPS AND FREE-STANDING TREES ARE TO BE LOWERED TO THE GROUND AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE
- THE AREA AROUND HANGUPS AND FREE-STANDING TREES IS TO BE KEPT FREE OF ALL OTHER WORKERS
- THE PROPER ESCAPE ROUTE IS TO BE USED TO THE APPROPRIATE DISTANCE FROM THE TREE AS IT FALLS

Safe Workplace Ontario - Conventional Logging

Development of Safe Operating Procedures

4. LIMBING-BUTTING-TOPPING-BUCKING:

- THE ESCAPE POSITION IS TO BE MAINTAINED UNTIL THE TREE HAS FALLEN TO THE GROUND AND ALL HAZARDS HAVE BEEN ASSESSED
- LIMBING IS TO BE DONE ONLY AFTER THE SITUATION HAS BEEN ASSESSED FOR HAZARDS SUCH AS SPRING POLES AND STRESS POINTS
- LIMBING IS TO BE DONE WITH THE FEET FIRMLY PLANTED ON THE GROUND AND ON THE UPHILL SIDE OF THE TREE
- CULL ENDS ARE TO BE REMOVED IN APPROPRIATE SECTIONS
- LIMBS ARE TO BE REMOVED FLUSH TO THE STEM OF THE TREE

5. SKIDDING:

- CIRCLE CHECKS OF THE MACHINE ARE TO BE DONE AT THE START AND END OF EACH SHIFT
- SKIDDING IS TO BE DONE AT A PROPER SPEED AND WITH MINIMAL DAMAGE TO STANDING TREES
- SIDE HILL TRAVEL IS TO BE AVOIDED WHENEVER POSSIBLE & STRAIGHT LINE WINCHING IS TO BE USED WHEN POSSIBLE
- THE BLADE IS TO BE LOWERED TO THE GROUND OR FIRMLY SUPPORTED WHEN THE CAB IS UNOCCUPIED
- NO SKIDDING OR WINCHING IS TO TAKE PLACE UNTIL ALL WORKERS ARE OUT OF THE DANGER ZONE
- IF IN THE SKIDDING AREA, THE CUTTER IS TO GIVE A CLEAR HAND SIGNAL BEFORE WINCHING BEGINS
- BEFORE LEAVING THE CUTTING AREA, THE SKIDDER OPERATOR IS TO GET AN ALL-CLEAR SIGNAL FROM THE CUTTER
- 3-POINT CONTACT (FACING THE MACHINE) IS TO BE USED WHEN MOUNTING OR DISMOUNTING THE SKIDDER

6. LOCKOUT

- ALL MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT IS TO BE LOCKED OUT & ZERO ENERGY STATE ACHIEVED BEFORE WORKING ON IT AS NOTED IN COMPANY POLICY AND PROCEDURE

7. GUARDING:

- MANUFACTURER'S GUARDS ARE TO BE MAINTAINED ON ALL EQUIPMENT
- WHERE MANUFACTURERS' GUARDS DO NOT ADEQUATELY PREVENT ACCESS TO HAZARDS, CUSTOM GUARDS ARE REQUIRED
- ALL EQUIPMENT WILL HAVE GUARDING MAINTAINED AS NOTED IN THE COMPANY POLICY AND PROCEDURE

8. COMPLIANCE:

- FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE STANDARDS WILL RESULT IN THE FOLLOWING ACTION:
FIRST OFFENCE - VERBAL WARNING THIRD OFFENCE - 2 DAYS OFF WITHOUT PAY
SECOND OFFENCE - WRITTEN WARNING FOURTH OFFENCE - DISMISSAL

9. SIGNATURES:

BY SIGNING BELOW, BOTH PARTIES AGREE THAT ALL OF THE ABOVE ITEMS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED AND CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD

_____ (EMPLOYEE) _____ (SUPERVISOR)

_____ (DATE)