

TOOLBOX TALKS

MACHINE SAFETY – FOOTING

Toolbox Talks are designed to promote safety discussions and best practices on the jobsite. To see more Toolbox Talks, please visit hollandcs.com/toolboxtalks.

MACHINE SAFETY – FOOTING

OVERVIEW:

- The steps and handrails provided on heavy equipment make it relatively simple to access the operator's cab and reduce the free climbing necessary to get there
- Although they work well for the intended purpose, steps and handrails sometimes contribute to accidents when they become damaged or worn and when other factors such as oil, water or ice are on them
- Slips and falls from these access points often result in contact with various machinery parts, as well as the ground
- Operator complacency usually is a contributing factor in these types of injuries

WHAT TO DO:

- Ensure the steps to your cab or operator's position are sturdy, in good repair and are equipped with handholds that can be used all the way to the cab
- Always maintain 3 points of contact when entering or exiting a machine. (2 feet and 1 hand, or 2 hands and 1 foot in contact with the ladder and rails at all times)
- If not already on the steps, acquire and apply slip resistant abrasive material to slick metal steps
- Be aware of conditions that often lead to slips—such as rain, mud and oily boots
- Pay complete attention when going up and down the steps

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