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Getting On and Off Equipment

Operators can be injured getting on and off equipment when they lose their footing, or the equipment moves suddenly. Injuries can range from sprains, cuts, and bruises to fractures and even death.

An operator was climbing down from the cab of a front-end loader and lost his footing on the muddy steps. He fell to the ground and sprained his ankle.

What caused this incident?

How could this have been prevented?

Have you ever been injured while getting on or off equipment, or do you know someone who has? If so, what happened?

Remember This:

- Set the parking brake to prevent the equipment from moving.
- Check the handholds and steps for mud or other conditions that could make them slippery.
- Face the equipment ladder and use both hands when climbing up or down.
- Use three-point contact when climbing in or out of equipment.
- Face in when climbing in or out of the equipment.
- Wear footwear that will provide support and traction.
- Keep work areas clean and free of waste such as scraps, extra materials, and garbage to prevent trip and slip hazards.