

Post Pounder, Truck Mounted

This Evaluation Guide for Skills Demonstration is to be used in the evaluation of an operator for certification on the specific piece of equipment stated above. It is intended that this Guide be followed closely during an evaluation, and the operator is expected to demonstrate competency in each of the items listed. However, variances may be made in some situations when, in the opinion of an evaluator, site conditions, operational constraints or the demonstrated skill of the operator requires that an item(s) be deleted or added to ensure a comprehensive evaluation.

Holds a valid class B Commercial Driver License with air brake endorsement, if applicable

Performs a thorough pre-op inspection and preventive maintenance, as needed

- A. Removes keys from ignition for safety
Checks that warning and safety decals are in place
- B. Distinguishes when vehicle should not be operated
- C. Verifies vehicle is safe to operate
- D. States all safety warnings for machine
- E. Inspects the following machine components: engine, steering and suspension, rear axle and suspension, exterior, cab interior, boom assembly, rear engine (see items 3 through 9)

3. Engine

- A. Checks oil, coolant, power steering, and window washer levels (and fills as needed)
 - B. Checks the radiator fins for cracks, distortion, debris and any signs of leakage
 - C. Checks fan for presence and distortion
 - D. Checks air restriction indicator (monometer) and cleans dust valve daily
 - E. Checks that oil and fuel filters are in good condition, secured tight, and without leaks
 - F. Checks batteries for corrosion and to be properly secured
 - G. Checks that shutters are not bent and are free from debris, if applicable
 - H. Inspects condition and tightness of belts
 - I. Checks Air Induction and Cooling tubes for presence and tightness, if applicable
 - J. Checks turbo charger for leaks and cracks, if applicable
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4. Steering, Suspension

- A. Checks springs and spring hangers for presence and damage
- B. Checks that shocks are properly attached, are not damaged and are not leaking
- C. Inspects pitman arm, drag link and tie rod ends for tightness
- D. Checks power steering assist cylinder, if applicable, and steering box for leaks and that it is secured to frame
- E. Checks tires for tread depth, proper inflation and obvious defects
- F. Checks wheels/rims for tightness, cracks, valve stem alignment, slippage or any damaged, broken or missing parts
- G. Checks wheel hub for proper lube levels

5. Rear Axle and Suspension

- A. Checks springs and spring hangers for presence and damage
- B. Inspects drive shaft visually for damage, debris or any sign of failure
- C. Checks differential and wheel seals for leaks
- D. Checks for presence and condition of axle vent
- E. Checks tires for tread depth, proper inflation and obvious defects
- F. Checks wheels/rims for tightness, cracks, valve stem alignment, slippage or any damaged, broken or missing parts
- G. Checks between dual wheels for any foreign materials, misalignment or any hidden damage
- H. Checks rock and mud flaps for presence and condition

6. Exterior

- A. Checks fuel tank for damage or leaks and fuel level
- B. Checks that lights, warning lights, and reflectors are clean and intact, properly attached, and operating correctly
- C. Checks exhaust system for damage or leaks
- D. Checks power take off (PTO) system visually for leaks and any broken, damaged or missing parts

7. Cab Interior

- A. Enters cab using steps and grab handles for safety (3 point climbing procedure)
 - B. Describes functions of controls
 - C. Inspects presence and condition of seat belts and other safety equipment, including horn, fire extinguisher, and first aid kit
 - D. Inspects for excessive free play in the steering wheel
 - E. Inspects for 1 - 1/2 inches clutch free play (if applicable)
 - F. Inspects for clean and undamaged glass and mirrors, working wipers/washers and heater/defroster
 - G. Checks two-way radio for proper adjustment and operation
 - H. Demonstrates an entire Air Brake check of the system, including how to check parking and service brakes (i.e.: low air warning - maximum air loss for service brake, automatic parking brake application)
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8. Boom Assembly

- A. Checks that boom is properly seated in tripod pad
- B. Checks turntable seat for rust and cracks
- C. Checks hydraulic hoses for cracks and leaks
- D. Checks for cotter pins to make sure they are not damaged or missing
- E. Checks turntable brake pedal for proper pressure
- F. Checks that safety pin on counterweight is secure
- G. Checks that the foot extension is all the way in
- H. Checks that the travel frame is all the way in
- I. Checks that the post puller (hydraulic ram) is secure
- J. Checks cables for broken or damaged strands
- K. Locates all 32 grease fittings, demonstrates proper greasing technique, correctly states greasing schedule which is either daily or after every 8 hours of machine operation
- L. Checks that the spring locks are disengaged

9. Rear engine

- A. Checks oil and fuel filters for leaks
- B. Checks fuel tank for leaks
- C. Checks for petcock in horizontal position
- D. Checks hydraulic oil level
- E. Checks that turntable chain doesn't have any broken links and is lubricated

10. Removes a damaged post from the ground

- A. Checks for overhead obstructions (trees, wire - must be at least 10' away from boom)
 - B. Turns off truck
 - C. Engages PTO by pulling lever out in cab
 - D. Turns on rotating lights
 - E. Unlatches and pulls down lever on side of truck
 - F. Mounts turntable seat using 3 point climbing procedure
 - G. Removes safety pin on pounding block
 - H. Turns rear engine on
 - I. Increases throttle to proper RPMs
 - J. Uses controls to raise boom to vertical position
 - K. Checks hydraulic hoses for cracks and leaks
 - L. Lowers foot extension to ground and raises truck to engage spring locks
 - M. Smoothly rotates turntable to working side of truck
 - N. Aligns truck with guiderail section without excessive maneuvering
 - O. Extends frame travel to damaged guiderail post
 - P. Lowers foot extension to ground
 - Q. Lowers post puller cylinder
 - R. Removes damaged post by raising post puller cylinder
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- S. Raises post puller cylinder back in place after damaged post is disconnected

11. Prepares machine to pound new post into ground

- A. Correctly levels the boom frame using the gauges
- B. Sets foot extension on ground
- C. Lowers hammer and block to guiderail post top
- D. Raises/lowers hammer onto block (post pounding)
- E. Stops hammering post when signal is given from other crew member
- F. Raises hammer and block assembly

12. Moves truck to next post

- A. Raises foot extension off ground
- B. Brings travel frame close to truck
- C. Checks for overhead obstructions and vehicle path
- D. Moves truck forward/backward to next post using hydraulic control panel
- E. Repeats steps B , C and D as necessary

13. Prepares machine for travel and/or shut down

- A. Moves boom assembly to rear of truck
- B. Dismounts from turntable seat and attaches spring lock lever on side of truck
- C. Uses 3 point climbing procedure to mount turntable seat
- D. Lowers foot extension and raises rear of truck to disengage spring locks
- E. Raises foot extension
- F. Lowers boom assembly onto tripod pad
- G. Ensures that frame travel is all the way in
- H. Moves truck forward using hydraulic control panel
- I. Disengages PTO by pushing lever in (in cab of truck)
- J. Puts safety pin back in pounder block
- K. Turns rear engine off

The below signatures indicate the operator has successfully completed the skills demonstration.

Signature of
Evaluator: _____ Date: _____

Signature of
Operator: _____ Date: _____

Reference: New York State Department of Transportation
