

TRACK LOADER

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.

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

- Visually inspects exterior of machine for loose, leaking, hanging, or broken parts
- Enters cab using steps and grab handles for safety (3 point climbing procedure)
- Removes keys from ignition for safety
- Ensures that parking brake is applied
- Ensures that transmission is in neutral or lowest forward gear or reverse, as per policy
- Ensures that battery disconnect is turned off
- Performs general safety checks including unsecured objects
- Inspects the following machine components

Engine:

- Checks Fluid Levels/Filters
 - * Radiator
 - * Crank case
 - * Battery
 - * Fuel tank
 - * Transmission
 - * Hydraulic fluid (with all cylinders collapsed as much as possible)
 - * Differentials
 - * Planetary/Axel

 - Exterior
 - * Checks for final drive leaks
 - * Checks for transmission leaks
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- * Checks for damaged or leaking hydraulic cylinders
- * Inspects and adjusts excessive or worn tracks, loose pads, bolt and master link
- * Checks condition of lift arms, hydraulic lines, cylinders, bucket cutting edges, teeth and safety bar; makes sure that pins have been lubricated.
- * Checks exterior lighting for broken bulbs, etc.
- * Inspects Roll Over Protection (ROPS)
- * Checks that all covers and guards are firmly in place
- * Checks rear safety screen for proper installation, if equipped with a winch
- * Checks lights, warning lights and reflectors are clean and intact, properly attached and operating correctly
- * Checks exhaust system for presence and condition
- Interior
 - * Inspects presence and condition of seat belts and other safety equipment, including horn charged and secured fire extinguisher, first aid kit
 - * Describes functions of the controls
 - * Inspects for clean and undamaged glass and mirrors
- Checks that warning and safety decals are in place
- Verifies vehicle is safe to operate
- States all safety warnings for machine

2. Starts and idles equipment properly

- Adjust operator's seat
- Fastens seat belt
- Engages battery disconnect, if equipped
- Turns on ignition switch
- Checks all gauges for working condition
- Tests back-up alarm and/or horn
- Makes sure neutral locking switch is engaged
- Starts engine according to proper procedure - refer to operator's manual
- Re-checks all gauges when engine starts
- Warms engine to operating temperature at ½ throttle in accordance to manual
- Checks the controls and levers for proper operation
 - Lift Arms
 - Bucket Curl
 - Clam Operation
- In cold weather, warms transmission with use of transmission valve in accordance with the operators manual
- Checks steering pedals for operating condition
- Follows parking brake procedure for equipment in accordance with operators manual

3. Prepares work site and performs test operations on machine

- Ensures that all personnel are clear of machine
- Checks for overhead and underground obstructions (wires, trees), ditches, etc., and calls UFPO if necessary
- Checks hydrostatic transmission for proper operation
- Tests brake by moving slightly forward and applying foot brake, and reversing transmission and applying foot brake
- Checks steering pedals for proper operation
- Checks proper engagement of counter rotation of tracks using steering pedals
- Levels loading site using either the bucket or opening the clam and using the inner blade

4. Moves machine around the work site in smooth, coordinated movements

- Properly engages transmission to move machine forward and backward
- Selects proper speed for task involved
- Correctly and accurately manipulates turning and braking controls to position machine for task

A SKILLS DEMONSTRATION IS TO INCLUDE BETWEEN ONE AND THREE OF THE FOLLOWING FOUR ACTIVITIES (NOS. 5-8) AT THE DISCRETION OF THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

5. Builds stockpiles

- Proceeds to stockpile area
- Inspects area
- Carries material in bucket and spreads material to start ramp for stockpile
- Repeatedly carries material in bucket, up ramp, and slightly steers left or right and dumps material
- Back drags dumped material or pushes dumped material to continue to build ramp or stockpile

6. Loads trucks from stockpile

- Proceeds to stockpile while lowering the bucket to the ground
 - Locks into hold so that full length of tracks are on the ground
 - When the bucket contacts the pile the operator does not spin the tracks
 - Cups the load by curling the bucket
 - After scooping, rolls bucket back to obtain a relatively full bucket
 - Looks for obstacles before backing
 - Checks mirrors to ensure area around machine is clear
 - Backs up enough so that bucket is clear of the pile
 - Lowers bucket so that machine has a safe balance
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- Turns and stops with machine pointed toward truck
- Moves slowly to truck without losing load or tipping loader
- Brings machine slowly to a stop to lift arms above the height of the truck box while avoiding the truck's side boards
- Approaches on the left side of the truck whenever possible to ensure that the tailgate lever is latched and to avoid damaging the ladder on the right side
- Squares up over the dump body so that there is a clear shot into the box
- Positions bucket over dump body so that material dumps into center of box
- Uncurls bucket keeping it clear of the truck
- "Feathers" the uncurling of the bucket so material is released evenly
- Raises arms and moves forward while dumping so that bucket stays centered and doesn't hit truck
- Does not spill load during dumping
- Rolls bucket back so that it is parallel to ground and ready to dig
- Moves back keeping clear of the truck
- Lowers arms close to ground (approximately one foot) to keep loader stable while moving to pile or transporting
- Loads a minimum of 3 buckets on large dump truck

ALTERNATE PROCEDURE TO CENTERING THE BUCKET:

- Straightens machine to the truck
- Approaches truck while raising the bucket in a manner that keeps the loader from rocking
- Only uses this approach on flat, stable ground

7. Cuts a ditch or cleans a channel

- Removes material from the ditch such that the finished surface forms a channel that allows water to flow freely
- Maneuvers machine with a reasonable amount of efficiency
- Adjusts methods of removing material to accommodate varying site conditions (eg., works across ditch or along ditch according to available working room, site topography, etc.)

8. Uses machine to grub a site

- Clears saplings, rocks and debris from the site safely and efficiently
- Sets bucket to proper digging height and manipulates bucket to remove brush and other surface material to the proper depth

9. Parks, secures and cleans loader

- Parks vehicle in appropriate area
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- Lowers bucket to ground
- Sets parking brake
- During periods when the ground may freeze, parks track loader on planks or tires on dry ground
- Uses proper engine shutdown procedure (Idles machine for 3-5 minutes)
- Exits machine using 3-point climbing procedure
- Cleans and secures vehicle as appropriate
- Lubricates all bucket linkages daily
- Completes Post Operational check

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