

TOOLBOX TALKS

Wheel Blocks and Chocks

Effective chocking and blocking practices are important to operator and public safety, and for avoiding unnecessary costs due to damages.

When a trailer or other mobile equipment is moving uncontrollably, the consequences to the equipment and the people working near it can be devastating. Chocks and blocks are used to prevent mobile equipment from moving. Chocks are wedge-shaped and slide tightly underneath and behind wheels.

This unexpected movement is the critical safety issue. Workers often assume that just because an engine is shut off, the unit or trailer will not move. When workers assume they are safe, they may position themselves directly in the path of travel or under the machine, where unexpected movement could lead to injury or death. Always use chocks and blocks to prevent unexpected, and often unsafe, movement.



Here are some guidelines for effective chocking and blocking:

- Chock the wheels on whichever axle is below the center of gravity of the machine or vehicle — always on the downhill side of the wheels. If there is a high degree of risk, chock all wheels on all axles.
- **It is important to note that both sides of the wheel should be chocked.**
- Before parking, inspect the ground for pits, loose top cover, and other deviations. Avoid these conditions when possible.
- Attempt to park the equipment on the flattest surface possible.
- Use chocking in addition to other methods, including setting the parking brake, parking in gear and/or turning the wheels toward the curb.
- Inspect the surface condition of the chocks and blocks to make sure the treads, grooves and surface areas are clean.
- Do not unhook trailers or equipment without chocking first.



Remember!! The heavier the equipment, the smaller the slope required for it to roll. Since stopped equipment can be silent, you might not notice the machine heading toward you, until it is too late.

DISCUSSION

Questions from staff

Comments by staff

Suggestions from staff

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Site/Department:		Facilitator Signature:	
Topic:			

The information in this document had been explained to me and I understand the content

Emp Name	Emp No	Signature	Emp Name	Emp No	Signature