

Presence in the danger zone around earth-moving machines

Again and again, construction sites experience severe accidents due to earth-moving machines grazing, crushing, rolling over or colliding with persons. Often the persons had been in the danger zone of the machine and were not seen by the machine operator.

Danger zone

The danger zone is the area around an earth-moving machine in which persons can be harmed if the motions of the machine, its equipment (e.g., if it should fall), or its attachments cause the payload to swing out or fall down on them.

Do not remain in the danger zone



Do not stay within the danger zone unless you have special safeguards



The following principles apply:

Persons are not allowed to be in the danger zone of an earth-moving machine!
The machine operator may only carry out work with the earth-moving machine when no persons are in the danger zone.

If going into the danger zone is unavoidable for operational reasons (e.g., for excavator hoist applications), the following applies:

- Coordinate the procedure beforehand
- Make eye contact with the machine operator before entering the danger zone
- Wear a high-visibility vest, hard hat and safety shoes

Tip 1:

Avoid crushing zones

When setting up the earth-moving machine, be sure to allow an adequate safe distance to fixed elements in the surrounding area to avoid the danger of crushing.

Tip 2:

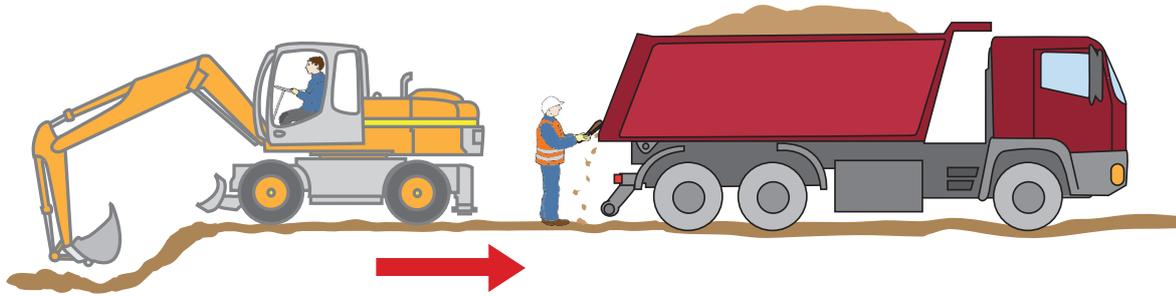
Check mirrors

Before starting work, check that the rearview mirrors in the cabin are undamaged, clean, and aimed at the area you will be driving or working in!

Presence in the danger zone of earth-moving machines

Additional actions to prevent accidents

- Organize the work safely by not working within the danger zone of earth-moving machines. For instance, take the dump truck to a safe area of the site to clean the chute. Then there is no danger of being crushed if the machine operator moves the excavator backwards.



For persons near construction machines

- Keep your eye on the machine and keep your distance!
- Avoid working in the area the machine is moving or working in!
- Make eye contact with the machine operator!
- Carry loads outside the path of the machine and in sight of the driver!
- Wear high-visibility clothing!

For machine operators

- Report to your superior if your view is restricted and no aids to improve the direct view are on hand (e.g., camera monitor system). An acoustic back-up alarm (so-called back-up beeper) by itself is not sufficient in such a case.
- Keep camera monitor systems and mirrors in order!
- Always be sure to use systems when the view is restricted.
- Look first, then drive or pivot!

Info:

If you discover a defect on an earth-moving machine (e.g., a restricted view or malfunction of the camera monitor system), contact us in the company:

Tip 3:

A major danger is posed when the machine operator has a poor view of the area in which the earth-moving machine is working or moving.

Therefore, check the field of view:

- If work is being done in a stooping posture: Check whether the driver can see persons stooping at a distance of one meter behind, in front of, or if necessary next to the machine (e.g., an excavator).
- If work is done in a kneeling posture: Check whether the driver can see persons kneeling at a distance of one meter behind, in front of, or if necessary next to the machine (e.g., an excavator).

