

Toolbox Topics: Asphalt Paving Safety | Compliance Safety Manager

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Toolbox Topics: General Safety for Asphalt Paving



Some best practices for asphalt paving operations are best practices for all job sites. And some may seem so obvious that they don't bear repeating. But being aware of and continually executing on all 22 is critical — it can be the difference between smooth, profitable operations and a site marked by expensive workplace injuries, lost productivity and regulatory exposure.

We invite you to incorporate these critical activities into a job-site checklist and ongoing safety awareness program for your project managers, foremen and crew.

1. Only trained and qualified personnel shall be allowed to operate paver.
2. Operators should study manufacturer's manuals before operating paver.
3. Operators should know location and function of all controls of the paver.
4. **NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL USE SHALL BE ALLOWED!**
5. Pay attention to all DANGER, WARNING, and CAUTION labels on paver.
6. Know what Personal Protective Equipment is needed to operate and work around the paver.
7. Know how to properly wear and maintain Personal Protective Equipment.
8. Do not wear clothing or jewelry that could be caught in moving parts.
9. Asphalt materials are very hot and can cause extreme injury. Know where to get assistance in case of an emergency. (Some of the new superpave and matrix mixes require even higher than normal temperatures for placement and compaction.)
10. Know how to use a fire extinguisher and what type of extinguisher is needed for

asphalt fires.

11. Know where the first aid kit is located.
12. When raking or shoveling hot asphalt, always wear gloves, long pants, long sleeves, and boots.
13. Be aware of your surroundings. Know traffic flow direction; location of road cones, barrels, and barricades. Know where the curbs and any manhole covers are located.
14. When trucks are dumping hot mix into the paver hopper, **STAND CLEAR.**
15. Use a knowledgeable signal person to help back loaded trucks.
16. When backing, truck drivers should stop if they lose sight of the signal person.
17. Make sure dump trucks are on level, stable ground before raising the dump bed.
18. Ensure that truck drivers and other workers are aware of any overhead power lines and the height of the lines.
19. Keep paver deck clean. Good housekeeping can prevent injuries.
20. Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated. Watch out for other workers. Get them in the shade if they show symptoms of heat exposure.
21. Constant awareness of the location of equipment is required. Watch out for equipment that is starting into motion.
22. Pavers are not transportation vehicles. Only those personnel needed to operate the pavers hold be allowed to ride on the paver.

About Craig Safety Technologies

Craig Safety Technologies, Inc. was founded in 1998 by Brenda Craig, a leader in industrial safety and safety software. Craig Safety Technologies provides Compliance Safety Manager™, a comprehensive and highly flexible web-based safety compliance management solution created to help companies understand and meet the regulatory requirements of the Department of Transportation (DOT) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Craig Safety Technologies, Inc. specializes in providing accountability and risk management for personnel and equipment assets for organizations across multiple industries. Specific CST services include: conducting on-site assessments of compliance readiness; training, documentation; and prescribing and implementing activities to ensure

compliance with federal regulations. In 2004, CST delivered one of the industry's first comprehensive patented software to document DOT and OSHA compliance activities necessary to comply with federal mandates.