

# safety matters

Construction

From your safety partners at Peabody Insurance Agency

## No Extra Riders on Equipment!

You operate heavy machinery on a regular basis, so you know many of the hazards you face. But you may not realize that letting an extra person ride on equipment intended to transport only one person is asking for an accident.

It is important that everyone on the job site is familiar with the dangers of extra riders on equipment, so that we can ensure everyone's safety and protection.

### Hazards of Extra Riders

- The operator may not be able to see his or her surroundings as easily.
- Access to crucial operating levers or controls on the equipment may be obstructed.
- The operator could become distracted by the rider's presence.
- There is increased risk of the extra rider being thrown from the equipment because they lack protection from safety belts and rollover features.
- If the extra rider is outside the cab, he/she is being exposed to potentially harmful dust, noise and chemicals.
- It increases the risk of a multiple-injury accident.

### Alternative Solutions

- Use a car or truck to transport co-workers to remote work areas.
  - Make sure you have safe transportation back from the remote area at the end of the day so you are not tempted to catch a ride as an extra passenger on equipment.
  - Plan your work assignments in advance so you can secure safe transportation to and from the location.
- Only use seats that were installed by the equipment manufacturer. Do not use makeshift seats on equipment. Just because the extra rider is sitting does not mean he or she is safe from harm—allowing an extra passenger is always a hazard.
- An enclosed cab does not mean the extra rider is protected. In an overturn, this will not protect the extra passenger from harm.
- Even if the equipment has a training seat, it should only be used by people who are legitimately being trained.

**It is important that everyone understand the dangers of extra riders on equipment, so we can keep everyone on the job site safe and injury-free.**

