



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR SAFETY

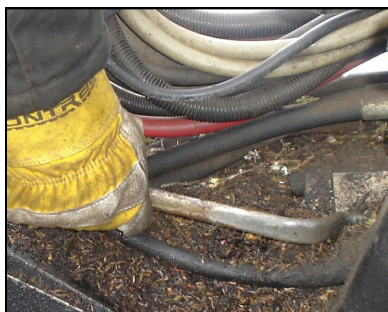
CHANGING HARVESTER BARS AND BAR CHAINS SAFELY

Rationale: To ensure the safe installation of a bar or bar chain on a harvester.

Background: There have been a number of incidents with operators cutting hands and/or fingers while changing chains. A proper procedure was required to reduce accidents of this type.

Procedures:

When you determine that the bar or bar chain needs to be replaced, first find a safe place to work. Put the machine in an area that has space from the machine to the harvesting head, and allows sufficient room around the head for working. Position the machine as level as possible, and place the boom so that it will swing away from the operator should it disengage. Arrange the head so that the bar and chain are at a 90-degree angle to you as you sit in the seat. The head can be positioned either at breast height or lower to the ground, whichever is most comfortable.



Once the machine and head are in a safe and convenient position for working, disengage the hydraulics and shut down the machine. Before exiting the machine, make sure the work area is safe. Exit the machine safely using four-point contact, and wearing the required personal protective equipment – hardhat, safety boots, high-visibility vest and work gloves. On some harvesters such as the Timberjack 1270, the hydraulics are disengaged outside the cab.

In order to do the job safely, you must place yourself in a spot with firm footing. **Never** stand on the tracks to change the bar or chain and **never** work under the head. The next thing you must do is clean away any debris from the bar and chain. Then, using a screwdriver or a socket wrench, slacken the bleeding screw or bolt on the bar holder. If one exists, slacken the chain tensioner. Push back the bar and remove the chain. Inspect the bar to ensure it is not bent, and flip or replace it if required. Replace the chain, and tighten the bleeding screw or bolt.



Once the chain and/or bar have been replaced, check the rest of the head for damages or leaks. Check the work area for hazards again, and in Timberjack 1270's, engage the hydraulics before entering the machine. Once safely in the cab, engage the hydraulics (in other than 1270s), start up the machine, and continue cutting.