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| Revision #:Written by: | Date: Month DD, YYYYApproved by: |

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| **Related Documents:**  | Refueling Procedure Powered Mobile Equipment Safe Work Practice |
| **When to use this SWP:** | This SWP must be followed when operating the skidsteer. It is important for all employees to follow the safe work practices and to refer to the operator’s manual prior to operating the equipment. |
| **Hazards & Risks:** | * Being caught in or under moving parts
* Roll-over
* Exposure to exhaust fumes when working in an enclosed area
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| **Personal Protective Equipment:** | CSA Approved* Steel-toe footwear
* Hearing protection
* high visibility clothing

Other personal protective equipment required will depend on the task for which the skid steer is being used (e.g. spraying, baling). Consult with the SWP for the particular task at hand to ensure appropriate PPE is used. |
| **Training Requirements:** | * Must be considered competent by supervisor/owner
* Must have a Class 6 driver’s license
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| **Communication Process:** | When working out in the field alone, be sure to consult the “Working Alone Procedure”. For any communication regarding break-downs, further instructions, etc. contact the supervisor. |
| **Equipment & Supplies:** | * First Aid Kit
* Fire Extinguisher
* Cell Phone or Two-way radio
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| **Practice:**1. Read the operator’s manual and familiarize with caution decals and symbols prior to operating the skidsteer.
2. Do not allow any riders on the skidsteer.
3. Never run the engine in a closed building without adequate ventilation.
4. Keep the operator’s area free of debris.
5. Do not operate the skidsteer unless:
	1. all safety equipment, shields, seat belt, seat bar, hydraulic controls, parking brake, operator guard and lift arm supports are working properly
	2. all safety and instruction decals are in place.
6. All maintenance must be performed by a competent individual according to the manufacturer’s specifications.
7. Never perform maintenance, service or refuel while the skidsteer is running.
8. Inspect the work area for hazards.

Operating the Skidsteer1. Perform a visual inspection prior to operation, as per the manufacturer’s recommendations. At a minimum:
	1. Check fuel, hydraulic oil, engine oil, transmission oil, coolant and battery.
	2. Check tire condition and pressures; remove any mud lumps from treads.
	3. Check horn, reversing alarm, lights and instruments.
	4. Test steering both ways.
	5. Check braking and park brake operation.
	6. Ensure that attachments are securely fitted, and safety pins or clips fitted.
	7. Inspect hoses and connections for splits, bulges, leaks or fractures.
	8. Test all hydraulic operations before applying load.
	9. Test operation by raising and lowering attachment.
2. Never attempt to start the engine while standing beside the unit. To start the engine:
	1. Sit in the operator’s seat with the seat belt fastened around you
	2. Put the seat bar in place
	3. Ensure controls are the locked or in the neutral position.
	4. Start the equipment.
3. Drive at speeds compatible with safety, be especially cautious when operating over rough ground, unfamiliar terrain, when crossing ditches or when turning.
4. Use care when operating on steep grades to maintain proper stability. Drive straight up or down slopes and always keep the heavy end of the loader uphill.
5. Do not turn the loader while the lift arms are in the raised position.
6. Always be watchful of bystanders when operating the loader.
7. Keep both hands on the control levers while the loader is in motion.
8. When attaching an attachment be sure it is locked in place prior to use.
	1. Never allow another person to help attach an attachment.
9. Always carry the attachment low for maximum stability and visibility.
10. Never attempt to lift loads in excess of the loader capacity. Know load capacity ratings.
11. Know where the overhead powerlines are located. Do not operate under overhead lines.
12. Never enter or leave the skidsteer while the engine is running. Prior to leaving the equipment:
	1. Lower the lift arms down against the frame.
	2. Drop the attachment down to contact the ground.
	3. Set the parking brake.
	4. Shut off the engine.
13. Always park the skidsteer on level ground. If it must be parked on an incline, block the wheels.
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| **Emergency Procedures:** | In case of emergency, contact 911 and your supervisor immediately. Remove yourself from harm’s way and ensure no one else is at risk.  |