

MACHINE EMERGENCY EXITS



An incident occurred where a felling machine tipped over and the emergency exit could not be used.

In this incident the machine ended up in a position where the operator could not get out quickly. The operator was unharmed due to wearing a seat belt but due to fire risk the decision was made to cut the margard window to get him out.

Getting out of a machine in an emergency is something we all need to have a plan for. Please discuss the following with everyone:

- If the exits of a machine are blocked how will you get the operator out? Are there bars, guards that need to be considered?
- What equipment is on site to break glass or cut margard?
- If you need to cut margard, how will you keep the operator inside the cab safe?

- Do you realise that cutting marginal is easier than you might think? In this case a chainsaw was used.
- What will you do if the operator is injured or unconscious? How will this change your plan?
- In the case of a fire, the urgency to get your operator out will increase. Having a crew plan that you all know will help with the speed and action of everyone.
- Have you checked your machine emergency exits lately? Are they clear of objects? Are the latches complete, unbroken, and work?



Please everyone - Carry out an emergency drill about getting operators out of machines and make a crew plan.