

17 November 2022

# SAFETY ALERT

## Maintenance of Harvesting Plant & Equipment

Maintenance work must be undertaken by qualified and competent service technicians as per the manufacturer's recommendations. You must ensure "safe positions" for visual inspections, wear checks, and maintenance.

Using your standard operating procedures develop a safe maintenance plan that everyone involved understands.

- Identify the hazards and risks involved in the task
- Identify what needs to be de-energised and locked out
- Test the machine is de-energised and locked out
- Make sure everyone knows and follows the plan

An example of an assessment control on a processing head is to ensure the delimb knives are covered with edge protection strips and the feed wheels are covered.

Blue canvas covers and edge protection strips to protect maintenance personnel from knives and feed wheels



If machinery and equipment could unexpectedly activate or if the unexpected release of an energy source could cause injury, the energy source must be isolated and controlled through de-energisation and lockout. This should also be in your standard operating procedures.

**Do not do maintenance work you are not trained or competent in.**