

Vermont Logger Safety and Workers' Compensation Insurance Program

Guidance for the Jobsite Standard Evaluation for Safety Certification

Adopted February 27, 2020

[Click here to go to the OSHA logging e-tool](#)

This document is a companion to the Vermont Logger Safety Jobsite Standard Evaluation for Safety Certification and intended to provide employers and supervisors clear information about how to meet the standard to become safety certified. Throughout the document, there are hyperlinks to the OSHA logging standard that has helpful information to prepare for a jobsite safety inspection. For employers that would like assistance in meeting any of the standards listed, or a pre-inspection consultation, please contact Project WorkSAFE, which is a free and confidential program, administered by the VT Dept of Labor, by emailing Luke McCarthy at luke.mccarthy@vermont.gov

Employer Name	Evaluator: Name of person completing the evaluation	
Employee Name	Date of Evaluation: Date of evaluation	
Status (select one)	Certification (select one)	Jobsite Report
Certification	Approved	Met with staff
Checked if initial certification	Checked if approved	
Re-Certification	Not Approved	Date: Date of staff meeting
Checked for recertification	Checked if not approved	
Re-Inspection	Re-Inspect in _____ days	Evaluation emailed to employer
Checked if it is a reinspection		Date: Date of mailing

Additional Comments

Evaluator will add relevant comments about the results of the inspection here and with additional space as needed.

Items noted will include:

- What are the most hazardous activities observed on the jobsite
- How will they be addressed
- What resources are being provided to the supervisor to address hazards
- Are the hazards a reason for a re-inspection, or should they be addressed and reevaluated at the next scheduled inspection
- What is the company doing well with regard to reducing the risk of injury and contributing to a culture of safety

Color Coded References on the Checklist

Yellow - Required

The practice listed on the checklist in yellow **must** be in place to become safety certified

Green - Best Practices

These are best practices, but not required for an approved checklist and safety certification, **unless** they are required to be implemented by the evaluator to address a specific hazard to reduce the risk of an incident or injury that has been observed at the jobsite.

Grey - OSHA Standard

This is the OSHA standard and can be searched online for more information

Company Information: This section covers company practices at the jobsite

New Employee Orientation: Required standard for approval

The employer must demonstrate through a written document, or electronic application, that they have provided new employees with:

- An explanation of the culture of safety on the job
- Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) needed for each task they perform
- Hazards associated with their job and tasks
- Who to report unsafe behavior to

Documented: The evaluator will select this box when they have seen the signed document (or online documentation)

Completed before start: Documentation must demonstrate that the orientation occurred on, or before, the employee's first day of work

Signed by Employee & Supervisor: Documentation must include the signature of the employee and their supervisor

Safety Meetings: Required standard for approval

Monthly / Sign in sheets

[**https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/interlinking/standards/1910.266\(i\)\(10\)\(i\)**](https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/interlinking/standards/1910.266(i)(10)(i))

The employer must demonstrate that they've held one safety and health meeting per month with employees. Safety meetings include reading and discussing either; preprinted materials, utilizing online safety meeting resources, or topics developed by the company, and must be relevant to the hazards faced on the operation. Safety and health meetings may be conducted individually, in crew meetings, in larger groups, or as part of other staff meetings.

Documented: To meet the standard, the employer has provided written or electronic documentation of when and where the meeting was held, who attended and notes of any changes in practices.

Demonstrated: The employee can demonstrate a safety meeting and discussion while the evaluator is onsite, but it is not required

Accident, Injury or Near Miss Investigation: Best Practice

Completed for each incident: Any time there is a near miss or injury on the operation, it is documented, and a record of what occurred, and how to prevent it in the future, is discussed by all employees. This can be a form developed by the company, a preprinted template, an online document, or smartphone or tablet application.

Supervisor sign off: To meet the standard, the supervisor of the operation must sign the document and provide it in written or electronic form to the evaluator.

Documented Programs

Lockout/Tagout (LO/TO) OSHA standard - [1910.147](#) This required practice will be met if the company has procedures and tools in place to complete a lockout/tagout of a machine. Refer to the binder provided during Introduction to Mechanized Logging Safety for examples.

Hazard Communication (Haz Com) OSHA standard - [1910.1200](#)

Emergency Action Plan OSHA standard - [1910.38](#)

Hazard Communication and Emergency Action Plan are best practices, but not required for an approved checklist and safety certification, *unless* they are required to be implemented by the evaluator to address a specific hazard to reduce the risk of an incident or injury at the jobsite.

******Though these programs are not necessarily required to become Safety Certified, they are still OSHA standards, and should the employer be subject to an unrelated OSHA inspection, and these are not met, there can be citations and penalties, even if they have met the Safety Certified standard.******

Employers that need assistance meeting this standard can [contact Project WorkSAFE](#).

Jobsite Practices: Best practices are not required for an approved checklist and safety certification, *unless* they are required to be implemented by the evaluator to address a specific hazard to reduce the risk of an incident or injury at the jobsite

Separation of Operations Plan - This best practice is met if the evaluator observes a jobsite where the operations are conducted in a manner that demonstrates communication and awareness of the operational zone of each machine and practices are in place to minimize the risk of injury.

Trucks Entering Highway Signs – Observed – This best practice is met if adequately sized signage is placed on highways to warn traffic where trucks are entering an adequate distance from the entry

Contact Information of Supervisor Posted – Observed - This best practice is met if the contact information of a supervisor is posted where it can be easily found in the event of an emergency response to the jobsite

Map of the Jobsite available for Emergency Medical Services - Observed - This best practice is met if a map of the jobsite is posted where it can be easily found in the event of an emergency response to the jobsite

Parked Vehicles Not Blocked In – Observed - This best practice is met if company or personal vehicles are not blocked in by wood or equipment in the event of the need to transport an injured worker for medical treatment in an emergency situation

Fuel Transfer Tanks Properly Grounded – Observed – This best practice is met if fuel transfer tanks used for Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel are grounded to prevent explosions

Hand Fallers: This section will be completed for each hand faller on the jobsite

First Aid Kit OSHA standard [1910.266\(d\)\(2\)](#) - [Appendix A](#) items, or, Personal Kit

Any worker operating a chainsaw must have the listed PPE, in serviceable condition, to be approved

Personal Protective Equipment for Non-Mechanized Loggers OSHA standard

observed approved not approved

Head Protection not more than 5 years old - The employer shall provide, at no cost to the employee, and assure that each employee who works in an area where there is potential for head injury from falling or flying objects wears head protection meeting the requirements of subpart I of Part 1910

Hearing Protection

Eye Protection Shield or Safety Glasses [1910.266\(d\)\(1\)\(vii\)\(A\) & \(B\)](#) - Eye protection meeting the requirements of subpart I of Part 1910 where there is potential for eye injury due to falling or flying objects; and

Cut-Resistant Leg Protection – [1910.266\(d\)\(1\)\(iv\)](#) - The employer shall provide, at no cost to the employee, and assure that each employee who operates a chain saw wears leg protection constructed with cut-resistant material, such as ballistic nylon. The leg protection shall cover the full length of the thigh to the top of the boot on each leg to protect against contact with a moving chain saw.

Cut Resistant Boots – The employer shall assure that each employee wears foot protection, such as heavy-duty logging boots that are waterproof or water repellent, cover and provide support to the ankle. The employer shall assure that each employee who operates a chain saw wears foot protection that is constructed with cut-resistant material which will protect the employee against contact with a running chain saw. Sharp, calk-soled boots or other slip-resistant type boots may be worn where the employer demonstrates that they are necessary for the employee's job, the terrain, the timber type, and the weather conditions, provided that foot protection otherwise required by this paragraph is met.

Cut Resistant Boots Best Practice – European Class 1

Hi-Vis Apparel – ANSI Class 1, 2 or 3, depending on the hazards present

These practices need to be observed and demonstrated in an approved manner

Chainsaw Use	observed	approved	not approved
Chain Brake attached, functioning and in use Chain catch pin on Throttle Lock functioning Spark Arrester attached Have at least one felling wedge Starting in a secure manner, chain brake on, no drop starts Proper Sharpening and Depth Gauge Filing			

To be approved, manual felling practices listed below will need to be observed and demonstrated in a manner consistent with Game of Logging training.

Manual Felling	observed	approved	not approved
Five point felling plan - verbalize Use retreat path established - 45o from fall / Min 12' Chain Brake Used on Start and When Walking Hazard and Danger Zone Awareness Bore Cut Technique Executed Properly			

Stumps	observed	approved	not approved
Notch cut meets <= 3/8" of bypass Hingewood No more than 1/2' variation 80% Min Long 10% Max Wide Notch opening > 70o Evidence of Trigger Wood			

Comments and observations of hand falling: Evaluator will add relevant comments and observations about the results of the inspection of hand falling here and with additional space as needed. Notes will include competency of the faller in verbalizing the five point felling plan, how they identify and prepare for deadfalls, the state of mind or situational awareness of the faller

Equipment Operators: This section will be completed for each equipment operator on the jobsite

Machine	Make/Model	Documented	Demonstrated
Parking Brake (or other lockout)		Equipped, Operational, In Use	
1910.266(f)(2)(x) Machines with factory installed parking brakes, or other lockout devices that disable movement or operation, must have them maintained in good working order and in use by the operator			
Service Brake	1910.266(f)(7)(i)	Equipped, Operational, In Use	
Service brakes shall be sufficient to stop and hold each machine and its rated load capacity on the slopes over which it is being operated.			
Seatbelts	1910.266(d)(3)	Equipped, Operational, In Use	
Each machine must have a seatbelt in good working order that is worn by the operator at all times.			

Steps/Handholds 1910.266(g)(5)	Equipped, Operational, In Use
Mounting steps and handholds shall be provided for each vehicle wherever it is necessary to prevent an employee from being injured when entering or leaving the vehicle. Each machine must have factory installed steps and handholds in place and in good working order.	
Machine Guarding Adequate	Equipped, Operational, In Use
Necessary factory installed machine guarding is in place to protect operators from injury.	
Three Points of Contact	Observed
Operator must demonstrate the practice of using three points of contact entering and exiting	
Blade/Boom/Grapple Down Upon Exit 1910.266(f)(2)(xi) & (f)(2)(x)(c)	Observed
Each moving element such as, but not limited to blades, buckets, saws and shears, shall be lowered to the ground or otherwise secured each time the operator exits the machine	
First Aid Kit in Machine 1910.266(d)(2)(i)	Observed
A first aid kit must be in each machine. The number of first-aid kits and the content of each kit shall reflect the degree of isolation, the number of employees, and the hazards reasonably anticipated at the work site.	
Portable Fire Extinguishers 1910.266(d)(4)	Observed
A fire extinguisher must be secured to the machine	
No Fuel Carried in Driver Compartment 1910.266(d)(9)	Observed
There must not be any fuel carried in the driver's compartment of the machine	
No Tools or Chainsaws Carried in Driver Compartment	Observed
There must not be any unsecured tools, or chainsaws, carried in the driver's compartment of the machine	
Two Exits	Equipped, Operational, In Use
The machine has two functioning exits e.g. two doors, or one door and an escape hatch	
Backup alarms	Equipped, Operational, In Use
Factory installed backup alarms are installed and working as designed when the machine is in motion	
Radio Communication 1910.266(d)(7)(i)	Equipped, Operational, In Use
The machine has a two way or CB radio in working order that enables the operator to communicate clearly with others in machines, or on the ground, or in trucks and company vehicles.	
Horn or signaling device 1910.266(d)(7)(i)	Equipped, Operational, In Use
The machine is equipped with a horn or signaling device that enables the operator to sound it and capture the attention of others on the jobsite	
Safe Skidding Speed	Observed
The evaluator observes skidding or forwarding occurring at safe speeds for the conditions.	
Danger Zone Awareness	Observed
Operators will demonstrate danger zone awareness	

Work Lights**Equipped, Operational, In Use**

The machine is equipped with work lights facing front and rear that enable the operator to see clearly in low light conditions and darkness and for the machine to be seen while being operated.

Personal Protective Equipment for Mechanized Operators OSHA requirement [1910.266 \(d\)\(1\)](#)

Each operator must wear or utilize the following PPE in serviceable condition -

Head Protection not more than 5 years old - The employer shall provide, at no cost to the employee, and assure that each employee who works in an area where there is potential for head injury from falling or flying objects wears head protection meeting the requirements of subpart I of Part 1910

Eye Protection

Eye Protection Shield or Safety Glasses [1910.266\(d\)\(1\)\(vii\)\(A\) & \(B\)](#) - Eye protection meeting the requirements of subpart I of Part 1910 where there is potential for eye injury due to falling or flying objects; and

Hearing Protection - when the noise at the site, or in the machine, is above 85 dB average for more than 8 hours, or goes over 90dB in an 8 hour day

Eye Protection, Shield or Safety Glasses - where there is potential for eye injury due to falling or flying objects

Hi-Visibility Apparel - ANSI Class 1, 2 or 3, depending on the hazards present

Training – certificate must be provided to the evaluator, either in person or electronically, documenting the training for the category of the work

Training for Supervisors and Employees

Supervisor (name of business owner or crew foreman)	Date of the training
Forest Operations Supervisor	
Mechanized Equipment Operators Training	Date of the training
Introduction to Mechanized Logging Certificate	
Advanced Logger Safety Certificate	
Continuing education training	
Non-Mechanized Logger	
Game of Logging Training	Date of the training
Level 1 Certificate	
Level 2 Certificate	
Level 3 Certificate	
Level 4 Certificate	
Level 5 Refresher Certificate (If Levels 1-4 of GOL were taken more than five years ago)	
Continuing Education	Date of the training