

## Backing Up A Work Vehicle

### Before backing up, what should the driver do?

Whenever you move your vehicle from a parked position, do a circle check and check for hazards:

- under the vehicle.
- around the vehicle (especially behind).
- above the vehicle.

Look around and identify posts, poles, buildings, overhead objects, the path the vehicle will travel, other vehicles and the paths people are walking. Check mirrors are clear, undamaged and positioned correctly. Test back up audible indicators.

### Spotters/Spotters

Whenever possible, use a spotter to direct the movement and operation of vehicles and motorized equipment.

Spotters must be familiar with the skills they need to perform this task.

Before work begins, drivers and Spotters must know the hand signals and their meaning.

### A Spotter must:

- make sure that they have visual contact with the driver when a vehicle is in motion,
- keep a clear view of the path the vehicle is travelling, and watch the vehicle and load as it moves,
- be aware of any other persons or vehicles entering the area and be able to warn them of any hazards,
- not have other duties to do while acting as a Spotter,
- wear high-visibility apparel, and wear appropriate equipment when working in low-light conditions, and
- not be distracted while performing these duties (e.g., no use of mobile devices or personal earphones).



# Safety Bulletin

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## Drivers/operators and Spotters must:

- recognize hazards,
- know the locations of blind spots,
- know the meaning of the hand signals,
- know how the vehicle behaves/moves when reversing,
- stop when they have any doubt about the safety of a person or to an object, and
- always back up at a slow pace.

\*Drivers must stop immediately if they lose visual contact with the Spotter.\*

All other workers must be aware of the hazards associated with moving vehicles, especially when backing up, and know how to protect themselves by:

- wearing high-visibility apparel,
- always making eye contact with the driver when approaching the vehicle,
- showing or signaling their intentions to the driver or Spotter,
- being alert for any back up alarms or signals,
- not working within a vehicle's blind spots, and
- not standing or walking in areas where vehicles are moving.

### Distance to Stopping Point

Face palms forward with hands above head. Bring elbows forward and hands together



### Stop

Cross both arms above head



### Turns

Point one arm to indicate the turning direction. Bend active arm repeatedly towards head to signal continued turning



### Proceed Slowly

Face palms in direction of desired travel. Bend both arms repeatedly toward head and chest, and extend

