

SAFETY ALERT



TITLE: SAFETY SWITCH DISABLED

Number: 49

Issued: 20/08/2021

Background

An FPC worksite inspection has identified a cable tie being used to disable a harvesting machine safety switch, which when operational, de-energies the hydraulic system when the cab door is open. The picture below is of a Tigercat machine, and other machines would have similar devices, be it on seats or arm rests.



Key points

This hazard was previously raised in 2017, when the practice was identified in the eastern states and communicated across to WA.

This practice has the high potential to kill or seriously injury workers.

Please communicate the seriousness of this practice with all staff and external contractors who may conduct maintenance offsite on these machines and direct all bush supervisors to check all harvesting machines for conformity.

Please ensure on prestart checklists, a hold point, that isolation switches are checked and operable.

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