



# TOOLBOX TALK



## TOPIC DISCUSSED:

# MUDDY WORK AREAS



Weather conditions can pose significant hazards and disrupt productivity at outdoor construction and work sites. This is particularly true when rain causes excessively muddy conditions, which give rise to various risks that must be taken into account.



## QUESTIONS:

1. Name 3 hazards that a muddy site could influence.
2. What should you do when your foot gets stuck?
3. Why do machines have to work harder in muddy conditions?

## TAKE A LOOK AT THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

### Top 3 hazards that are associated WITH MUDDY WORK AREAS



#### EQUIPMENT & VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

Operating in muddy conditions significantly reduces traction and control, increasing the likelihood of crashes and overturning.



#### SLIPS, TRIPS, & FALLS

Walking or accessing equipment in muddy areas can lead to slips and falls, posing a risk to workers' safety.



#### SPRAINS & STRAINS

Attempting to free boots stuck in the mud may result in pulled muscles. Falling with feet in an awkward position can also cause sprains or strains.

### WHY IS IT DANGEROUS?

It instantly makes everything **SLOWER** and more dangerous in a variety of ways.



When dirt is soaked in water, the mud that results can be **TRIPLE OR EVEN QUADRUPLE** the weight as the same volume of dirt.

This means machines have to work all the harder to move it, which decreases efficiency & can exacerbate wear & tear on your heavy equipment.

## Best Practices for Working in Mud



#### AVOID WORKING IN MUD



#### USE A BULLDOZERS TO PREPARE THE WORK AREA

To create a more stable ground surface.



#### ADDRESS THE AREA

Invest time in making the area safer than dealing with stuck vehicles or equipment that may tip over.

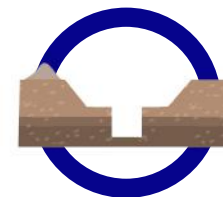


#### AVOID DRIVING IN AREAS WITH EXCESSIVE MUD



#### KEEP EQUIPMENT CLEAN

Remove mud from your boots before climbing up or down. Always ensure you have three points of contact for stability and safety.



#### INSPECT ALL EXCAVATIONS



#### WHEN YOUR FOOT IS STUCK IN MUD, DO NOT YANK IT OUT

Slowly work it out by moving your foot back & forth.

