

# TIP SHEET

A series of health and safety tips to prevent work-related injuries in the trucking industry



## TIPS TO LIVE BY

- Always operate tractor according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Make sure the cabover is locked down. If it must be tilted forward, prop it with the safety bar.
- Never put your body under a raised fifth wheel unless the boom is properly blocked.
- Make sure tractor fifth wheel and trailer king pin are locked before moving.
- Use 3 points-of-contact when climbing the vehicle.
- Perform a full pre-trip inspection before operating the tractor.
- Start and stop tractor movement slowly and obey all traffic rules and signs.
- Stay in designated travel lane and allow plenty of room for other equipment and pedestrian traffic.
- When traveling, check wall mirrors for bystanders or pedestrians around corners.
- Keep a clear view of travel and use a spotter where view is obstructed or has blind spots.
- Make sure travel areas are always well lit.
- Wear high-visibility reflective clothing.

## Yard Tractors and Harm Factors

Yard tractors are known by different names: terminal tractor, hostler, spotter truck, yard truck, yard jockey, yard goat, or mule. Whatever you call them, operating yard tractors where vehicle and pedestrian traffic merges puts their drivers at the center of hazardous conditions that can injure or kill. Use these tips to keep your employees safe when operating or working near yard tractors.



Photo courtesy of Lynden Incorporated



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[KeepTruckingSafe.org](http://KeepTruckingSafe.org)

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