

Equipment Safety Bulletin

Technical Support Department

Reference Number	Bulletin 05 - 2019
Affected Product	All C and D series Caterpillar Compact Track Loaders, Multi Terrain Loaders and Skid Steer Loaders fitted with enclosed cabs
Risks Identified	Safety Maintenance Recommendation - Inspect secondary exit release mechanism functionality on enclosed cabs
Release Date	12 December 2019

Safety Maintenance Recommendation - Inspect Secondary Exit Release Mechanism Functionality on Enclosed Cabs

Many C & D series Caterpillar Compact Track Loaders, Multi Terrain Track Loaders and Skid Steer Loader models have enclosed cabs. In the event of an emergency, there are two alternate exit paths for the operator.

The primary alternate exit is via the cab rear window, and the secondary alternate exit path is via the front cab door hinge release mechanism. This bulletin only concerns the secondary alternate exit system in the front door of the enclosed cab - refer Figure 1 and 2.

Figure 1 - C-Series secondary exit handles



Figure 2 - D-Series secondary exit handles



<u>Issue Description - Environmental or Application Conditions</u>

Environmental or application conditions may cause corrosion of the secondary exit release mechanism components. If corrosion occurs, the secondary release mechanism handles may become seized to the latch components, which may render the handles inoperable.

An example of a seized secondary exit handle is provided in Figure 3.



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Figure 3 - Example of a seized secondary exit lower handle. This handle was seized to the latch component on the outside of the door window, preventing rotation of the handle pictured here.

A rubber washer is placed on each side of the window section to provide a resilient weather seal for the secondary exit release components, so degradation or looseness of the washers may indicate the seal is compromised. Note: older models have black handles that can also be affected.



Issue Management Actions

In addition to any inspections required pursuant to OEM maintenance or safety guidelines, it is recommended the following inspection be incorporated into a machine owner's periodic maintenance schedule to check for corrosion and to test the functionality of the secondary release mechanism handles. Corrosion that can cause the metal components of the mechanism to seize cannot be sighted without operating the mechanism. As the components are not retained in place after operation, reassembly is required after testing operation as per the following procedure.

If you do not feel confident undertaking the inspection procedure for checking outlined below, please call 131 228 to speak to your local Customer Support Representative. Quote this bulletin number as a reference. You can also engage your local Caterpillar dealer or alternate maintenance provider to complete the inspection for you.

<u>Procedure for Safety Inspection* Please read completely before attempting to undertake inspection task:</u>

As the mechanism components are not retained in place once the handle is operated, we recommend you have an assistant to catch the hinge latches.

- With the machine shutdown and isolated, attempt to operate either the upper or lower secondary exit release handle with <u>moderate</u> force. <u>Do not operate both handles at the same</u> <u>time for this inspection otherwise the window section may be dislodged</u>. If operable with moderate force, the handle should also separate from the door on the inside.
- If a handle is not operable, <u>do not force it</u>, or the components or door window may be damaged.
 If one or both of the handles is inoperable, **immediately place the machine out of service** and contact your Caterpillar dealer customer support representative and quote this Equipment Safety Bulletin number.
- 3. If the handle is not seized, inspect both the handle and the latch for corrosion and replace if corroded. If the components are free of corrosion and serviceable, reinstall into the door and resecure the handle to the latch and test the security of the window section. Refer to Figure 4 and Figure 5 showing the correct component orientation for reassembly, noting that one rubber washer must be fitted on each side of the window to form a conformable seal the washers are compressed slightly once the handle is in the shut position.
- 4. Once the first handle is re-secured, repeat the process for the other handle.
- 5. Conduct regular inspections as outlined above to provide assurance that the secondary exit mechanism remains operable. The frequency of this inspection may need to be adjusted according to environmental conditions or applications. Machines operating in humid and wet



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environments or corrosive applications may require more frequent inspection. It is recommended to maintain a record of this inspection for all affected machines.

Reference the instruction labels in the machine and Operation and Maintenance Manual** as necessary and ensure machine operators are aware of these items. The alternate exit operation is described in the 'Operation' section, under the 'Alternate Exit' heading.

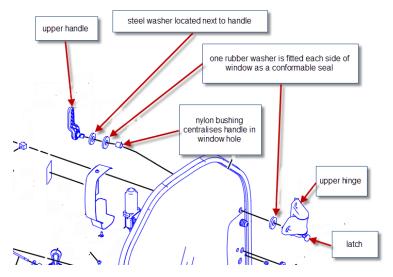


Figure 4 - Correct arrangement of secondary exit handle components.



Figure 5 - This image shows the correct relationship of the inner components of the lower handle assembly. Note the rubber washer is next to the window and the steel washer is next to the handle. The lower handle components are assembled in the same order as that shown in Figure 3 for the upper handle.

- * If you undertake this inspection procedure yourself, Hastings Deering (Australia) Limited accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage occasioned by performing this inspection procedure.
- ** Operation and Maintenance Manual should always be located in the machine. It should be attached by a lanyard to prevent loss and be readily accessible to the operator.

To confirm the latest revision of this publication or if you have any questions on the contents of this bulletin please call 131 228 and ask to speak to your local Customer Support Representative.

This bulletin is to inform you of the recommendations of the supplier in respect of issues dealt with in the bulletin and should not be used as specific advice in respect of any particular events. Advice from a qualified repairer should be sought in respect of any particular events and Hastings Deering (Australia) Limited accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage occasioned by a party using this general bulletin.