



Don't Over-Extend Yourself!

Skid steers have been a common piece of equipment of many farms for long time. A newer piece of equipment found on farms today is the telehandler. Telehandlers are for tasks such as lifting big round bales and stacking them on a trailer or stacking in a barn or shed. Telehandlers can lift heavy objects just like it can be done with a forklift or skid steer loader. What makes a telehandler somewhat unique is its ability to extend its arm placing the heavy load some distance from the base of the telehandler. But, this ability also brings with it a potential hazard.

This activity will emphasize what can happen when a telehandler is used to lift a heavy load and then extend the load forward away from the base of the telehandler.

Procedure:

1. Place the lightest object in the bucket of the telehandler
2. Starting with bucket in the lowest position and not extended, raise the bucket to several different settings
3. Return the bucket to the lowest position, but extend the arm to its fullest extension. With the lightest object in the bucket raise the bucket to several different settings.
4. Repeat steps 2 and 3 using heavier objects.

Telehandlers are designed to lift heavy loads. But, the higher and further the load is extended from the telehandler the lighter the load must be for the telehandler to maintain its stability.

NOTE: Telehandlers are designed to lift objects. **A telehandler should never be used as a tool to lift a person.**

Materials Needed



1/16 scale
Telehandler



Objects of
different weights



Scales (optional)