### WASTE COMPACTOR SAFETY TIPS

#### Be Prepared

- Ensure you have been trained in the use of the compactor.
- Inspect the machine to ensure no obvious defects:
  - Broken door locks
  - Bent doors
  - Damaged controls
  - Hydraulic leaks
- Review the safety warning labels on the equipment.
- Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE):
  - Non-slip safety shoes
- Let someone know when you are going to use the compactor.
- Secure any personal items that could fall into compactor.
- Only place materials appropriate for the specific compactor in the compactor.
- Confirm which materials are safe to place in compactor.

#### Work Safe

- Compact every time material is placed in compactor.
- Ensure compactor hoppers (where present) are guarded to prevent reaching in or falling.
- Do not place any body part past the threshold of the hopper.
- Ensure the compactor material filling door(s) is(are) securely closed before operating.
- Never open the door while a compactor is running.
- All access doors to compactor hazards must be equipped with safety interlocking devices that immediately signal the compactor to stop upon opening.
- Do not defeat any safeguarding.
- Clean up any spills immediately.
- If there is a jam or other problem, contact your supervisor for assistance.

#### Finish Right

- Clean the floor and work area around the machine.
- Ensure all warning signs are readable.
- Use a lockout procedure for cleaning equipment and maintenance.
- Ensure only qualified individuals are performing maintenance on compactors, and that manufacturer’s instructions are followed.
- Clean and put away PPE.
- Report any problems with the equipment or signs to your supervisor.

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**Speak up!**  
If you see a hazard, let a supervisor know. Everyone plays a role in your safety and health.
HOW TO USE SAFETY CHECKS FOR WORKERS

Safety checks provide information for workers on how to work safely with specific hazards. Safety Check information can be used in orientation training, tailgate talks or even in one-one coaching. Use the following tips to help you communicate this information in your workplace:

- Use language that is consistent with the workplace
- Consider the work you do and specific examples of how these hazards can result in injury or illness
- Explain how the safe work practices will help prevent injury and illness
- Wherever possible, use the actual tools, equipment, materials and PPE to demonstrate proper use
- Ask specific questions during your talk to check understanding
- Keep a record of each talk that you deliver (see the form below)
- Post a copy of the Safety Check for workers to reference

OWNERS AND SUPERVISORS

Have you taken reasonable measures to control this hazard using the hierarchy of controls?

- **Engineering** lockable access and safeguarding
- Place the machine in a location where the work can be supervised
- **Procedure** for safe use and maintenance
- **Inspecting** and **repairing** equipment regularly
- **Training** staff on how to recognize, assess and control compactor hazards
- **Implementing** and **enforcing** PPE program

Date: ____________________________ Topic: __________________________________________________

Safety Check Session Leader: _________________________________________________________________

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