

Look up, Stay aLive

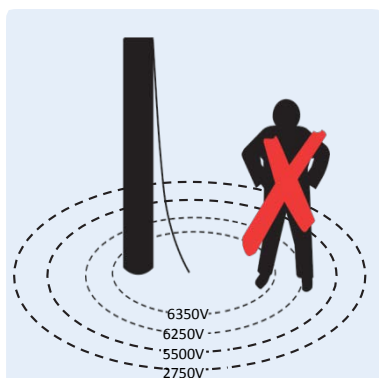


Always take care when operating around overhead powerlines

What to do if contact is made with powerlines

What happens when overhead powerlines are contacted.

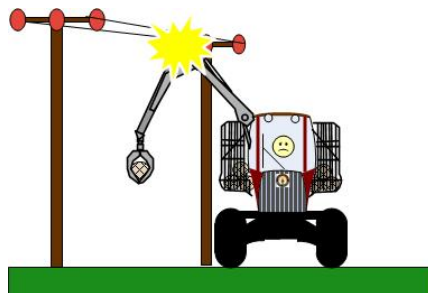
- When your machine touches the line, it immediately becomes energized to the voltage in the wires and the electricity will attempt to pass through the vehicle to the ground.
- Anything else in contact with the powerlines will also become 'live', such as fences and trees.
- Always treat the powerline as live.
- A potentially dangerous electrical field called Step Potential will be created around anything in contact with the powerline. This field extends for approximately 15 metres around these items.
- The illustration shows one foot on the ground at a point having x volts and the other foot a step away at a point having y volts. The voltage difference (x-y volts) determines the current level through the body



This person would receive
 $6350V - 5500V = 850 \text{ Volts}$
THIS CAN BE FATAL

What should you do if the machine is operable

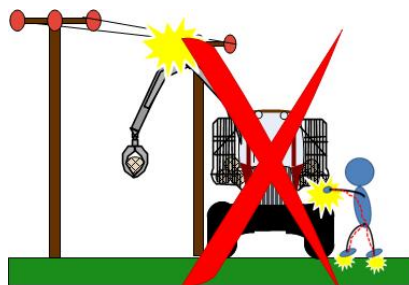
- **STOP WORK**, remain calm and stay in the cab.



- Instruct everyone outside the machine not to approach or make contact with it.
- Disengage from line by lowering plant and slowly drive the machine well clear of the line provided this does not risk breaking the conductor or dragging it to the ground.
- Contact Network Operators Emergency number and tell them what has happened.

What should you do if the machine is not operable and there is no immediate risk to life from fire or other hazard.

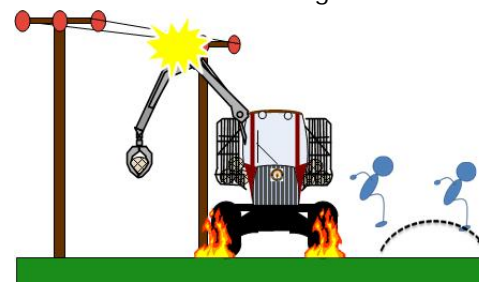
- **STOP WORK**, remain calm and stay in the cab.
- Instruct everyone outside the machine not to approach or make contact with it.



- Contact Network Operators Emergency number and tell them what has happened and that the machine is not operable and that you are still in the cab.
- Do not exit the cab until Network Operator confirms that it is safe to do so.

What should you do if the machine is not operable and an immediate risk to life from fire or other hazard.

- **STOP WORK**, remain calm.
- Instruct everyone outside the machine not to approach or make contact with it.
- Do not step down from the machine. **Jump clear** of the machine and **do not** make any contact with any part of the machine when on the ground.



- Land with the feet kept as close together as possible and avoid placing hands on the ground.
- Shuffle away from the machine – by taking half steps only or hop with both feet together.
- Avoid taking full steps or spreading the feet in any direction.
- When well clear of the machine, continue to treat the machine as live.
- Contact Network Operators Emergency number and tell them what has happened.

In all emergencies.

- Contact all relevant emergency services.
- Tyres can explode during or after contact with powerlines – isolate and maintain a safe distance for 24 hrs.
- Deal with the emergency situation calmly ensuring own safety and the safety of your colleagues and the public are not compromised by your actions.
- Do not leave the site unattended – remain on site until Network Operator arrives.
- Inform your manager about the incident.
- Machinery must be checked for damage before normal use continues by a competent person.

Network Operators emergency contact number: