

# 120C Excavator Repair

## TECHNICAL MANUAL 120C Excavator Repair

TM1935 08SEP06 (ENGLISH)

For complete service information also see:

120C Excavator Operation and Tests. . . . .	TM1934
120C and 160CLC Excavator Operator's Manual . . . . .	OMT188255
POWERTECH® 4.5 L & 6.8 L (4045 and 6068) Diesel Engines, Base Engine . . . . .	CTM104
POWERTECH 4.5 L & 6.8 L Diesel Engines Level 12 Electronic Fuel System with DE10 STANADYNE® Pump . . . . .	CTM331
Alternators and Starting Motors. . . . .	CTM77
Undercarriage Appraisal Manual . . . . .	SP326


**Worldwide Construction  
And Forestry Division**  
LITHO IN U.S.A.

# Introduction

## Foreword

This manual is written for an experienced technician. Essential tools required in performing certain service work are identified in this manual and are recommended for use.

Live with safety: Read the safety messages in the introduction of this manual and the cautions presented throughout the text of the manual.

 This is the safety-alert symbol. When you see this symbol on the machine or in this manual, be alert to the potential for personal injury.

Technical manuals are divided in two parts: repair and operation and tests. Repair sections tell how to repair the components. Operation and tests sections help you identify the majority of routine failures quickly.

Information is organized in groups for the various components requiring service instruction. At the beginning of each group are summary listings of all applicable essential tools, service equipment and tools, other materials needed to do the job, service parts kits, specifications, wear tolerances, and torque values.

Technical Manuals are concise guides for specific machines. They are on-the-job guides containing only the vital information needed for diagnosis, analysis, testing, and repair.

Fundamental service information is available from other sources covering basic theory of operation, fundamentals of troubleshooting, general maintenance, and basic type of failures and their causes.

DX, TMIFC -19-29SEP98-1/1

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*Introduction*

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# Section 00

## General Information

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### Follow Safe Procedures

Unsafe work practices are dangerous. Understand service procedure before doing work; do not attempt shortcuts.



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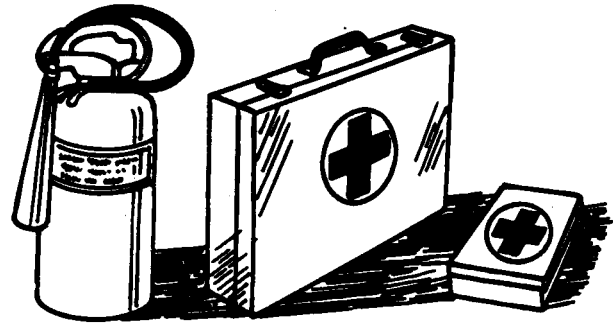
TX,05,FF1611 -19-14JUN90-1/1

### Prepare for Emergencies

Be prepared if a fire starts.

Keep a first aid kit and fire extinguisher handy.

Keep emergency numbers for doctors, ambulance service, hospital, and fire department near your telephone.



TS291 -UN-23AUG88

DX,FIRE2 -19-03MAR93-1/1

**Prevent Acid Burns**

Sulfuric acid in battery electrolyte is poisonous. It is strong enough to burn skin, eat holes in clothing, and cause blindness if splashed into eyes.

Avoid the hazard by:

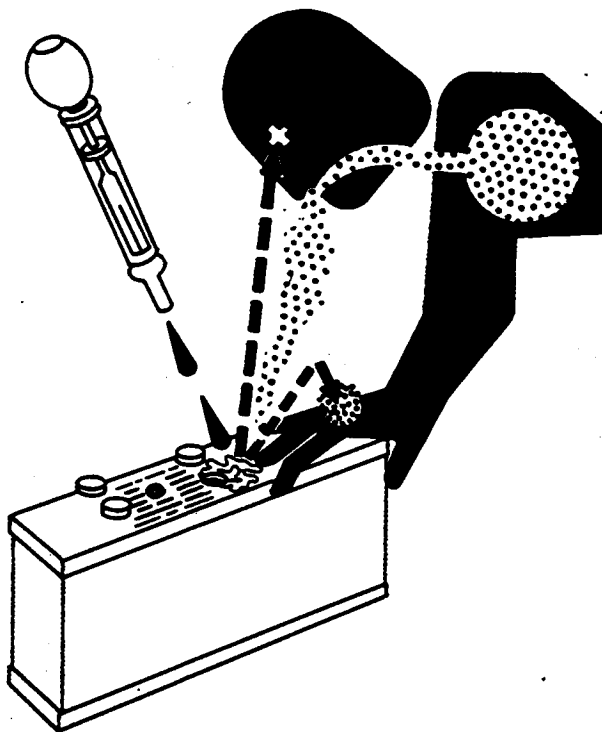
1. Filling batteries in a well-ventilated area.
2. Wearing eye protection and rubber gloves.
3. Avoiding breathing fumes when electrolyte is added.
4. Avoiding spilling or dripping electrolyte.
5. Use proper jump start procedure.

If you spill acid on yourself:

1. Flush your skin with water.
2. Apply baking soda or lime to help neutralize the acid.
3. Flush your eyes with water for 15—30 minutes. Get medical attention immediately.

If acid is swallowed:

1. Do not induce vomiting.
2. Drink large amounts of water or milk, but do not exceed 2 L (2 quarts).
3. Get medical attention immediately.



TS203 -UN-23AUG88

DX,POISON -19-21APR93-1/1

### Handle Chemical Products Safely

Direct exposure to hazardous chemicals can cause serious injury. Potentially hazardous chemicals used with John Deere equipment include such items as lubricants, coolants, paints, and adhesives.

A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) provides specific details on chemical products: physical and health hazards, safety procedures, and emergency response techniques.

Check the MSDS before you start any job using a hazardous chemical. That way you will know exactly what the risks are and how to do the job safely. Then follow procedures and recommended equipment.

(See your John Deere dealer for MSDS's on chemical products used with John Deere equipment.)



TS1132 -UN-26NOV90

DX,MSDS,NA -19-03MAR93-1/1

### Handle Fluids Safely—Avoid Fires

Handle fuel with care; it is highly flammable. Do not refuel the machine while smoking or when near open flame or sparks. Always stop engine before refueling machine. Fill fuel tank outdoors.



TS202 -UN-23AUG88

TX,05,FF1622 -19-14JUN90-1/2

Store flammable fluids away from fire hazards. Do not incinerate or puncture pressurized containers.

Make sure machine is clean of trash, grease, and debris.

Do not store oily rags; they can ignite and burn spontaneously.



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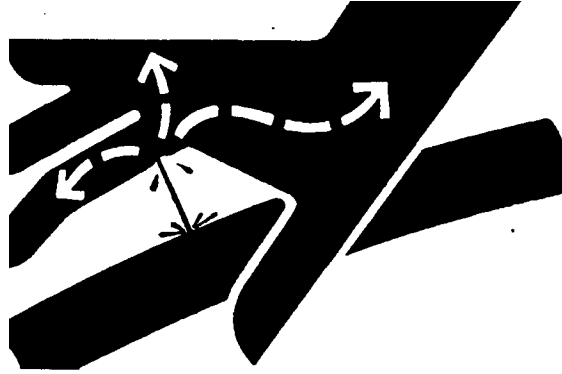
## Avoid High-Pressure Fluids

Escaping fluid under pressure can penetrate the skin causing serious injury.

Avoid the hazard by relieving pressure before disconnecting hydraulic or other lines. Tighten all connections before applying pressure.

Search for leaks with a piece of cardboard. Protect hands and body from high pressure fluids.

If an accident occurs, see a doctor immediately. Any fluid injected into the skin must be surgically removed within a few hours or gangrene may result. Doctors unfamiliar with this type of injury should reference a knowledgeable medical source. Such information is available from Deere & Company Medical Department in Moline, Illinois, U.S.A.



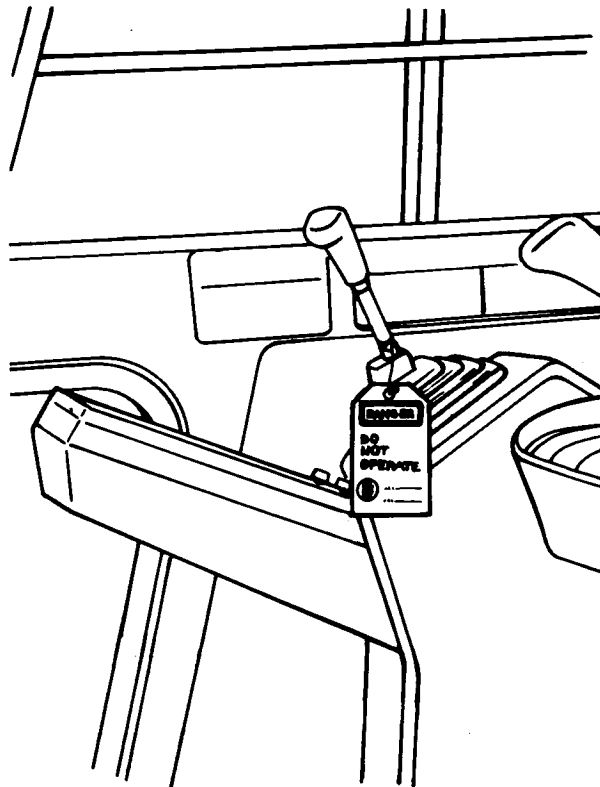
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DX,FLUID -19-03MAR93-1/1

## Warn Others of Service Work

Unexpected machine movement can cause serious injury.

Before performing any work on the machine, attach a "Do Not Operate" tag on the right control lever.



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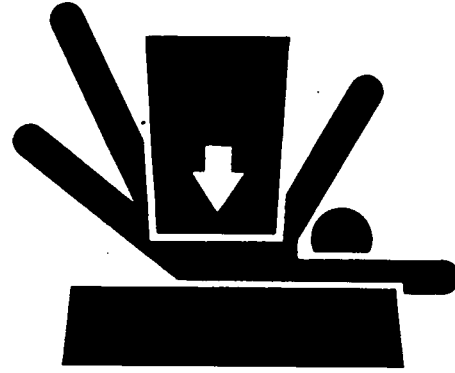
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## Support Machine Properly

Always lower the attachment or implement to the ground before you work on the machine. If the work requires that the machine or attachment be lifted, provide secure support for them. If left in a raised position, hydraulically supported devices can settle or leak down.

Do not support the machine on cinder blocks, hollow tiles, or props that may crumble under continuous load. Do not work under a machine that is supported solely by a jack. Follow recommended procedures in this manual.

When implements or attachments are used with a machine, always follow safety precautions listed in the implement or attachment operator's manual.



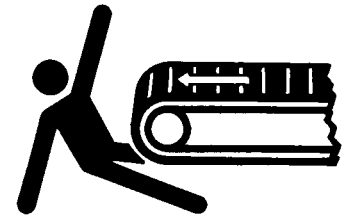
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DX,LOWER -19-24FEB00-1/1

## Operate Only from Operator's Seat

Avoid possible injury or machine damage. Do not start engine by shorting across starter terminals.

NEVER start engine while standing on ground. Start engine only from operator's seat.



T6607AO -JUN-18OCT88

TX,05,FF1615 -19-14JUN90-1/1

## Park Machine Safely

Before working on the machine:

- Park machine on a level surface.
- Lower bucket to the ground.
- Turn auto-idle switch off.
- Run engine with engine RPM dial at 1/3 position for 2 minutes.
- Move engine RPM dial to slow idle position.
- Turn key switch to OFF. Remove key from switch.
- Pull pilot control shut-off lever to locked position.
- Allow engine to cool.

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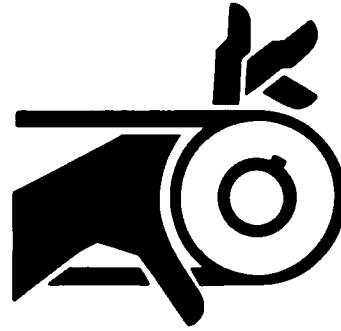


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## Stay Clear of Moving Parts

Entanglements in moving parts can cause serious injury.

To prevent accidents, use care when working around rotating parts.



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## Avoid Power Lines

Serious injury or death can result from contact with electric lines.

Never move any part of the machine or load closer to electric line than 3 m (10 ft) plus twice the line insulator length.



T7273AD -UN-08JUN90

TX,05,RR,594 -19-12JUN90-1/1

## Use Handholds and Steps

Falling is one of the major causes of personal injury.

When you get on and off the machine, always maintain a three point contact with the steps and handrails and face the machine. Do not use any controls as handholds.

Never jump on or off the machine. Never mount or dismount a moving machine.

Be careful of slippery conditions on platforms, steps, and handrails when leaving the machine.



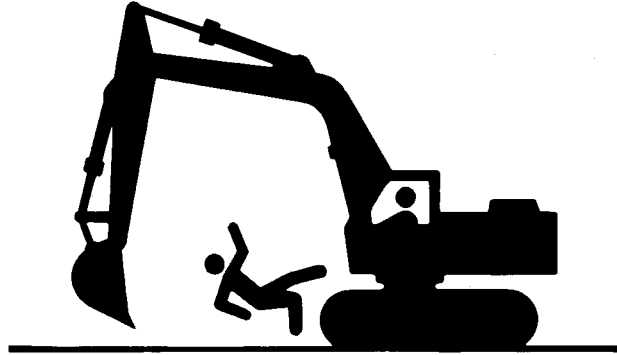
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### Keep Riders Off Machine

Only allow the operator on the machine. Keep riders off.

Riders on machine are subject to injury such as being struck by foreign objects and being thrown off the machine. Riders also obstruct the operator's view resulting in the machine being operated in an unsafe manner.



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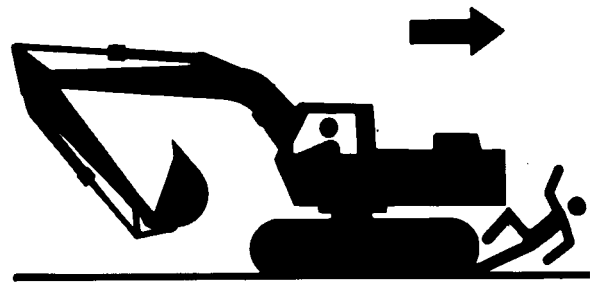
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### Move and Operate Machine Safely

Bystanders can be run over. Know the location of bystanders before moving, swinging, or operating the machine.

Always keep the travel alarm in working condition. It warns people when the machine starts to move.

Use a signal person when moving, swinging, or operating the machine in congested areas. Coordinate hand signals before starting the machine.



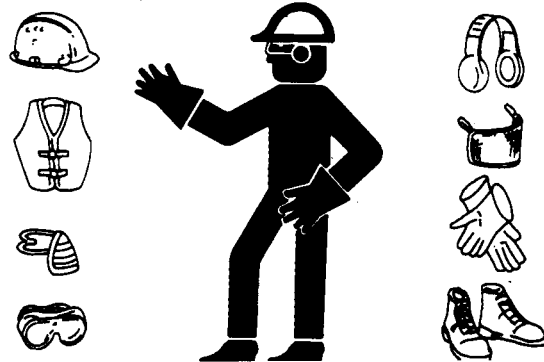
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### Wear Protective Clothing

Wear close fitting clothing and safety equipment appropriate to the job.

Operating equipment safely requires the full attention of the operator. Do not wear radio or music headphones while operating machine.



TS206 -UN-23AUG88

DX,WEAR2 -19-03MAR93-1/1