

SAFETY BULLETIN**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

DATE: October 14, 2005

PRODUCT: **ALL 800 Series Feller Bunchers
(822, 830, 845, 853, 860, 870, all models)**

SERIAL NUMBER: ALL

SUBJECT: **SKYLIGHT FAILURE**

DESCRIPTION: Recently a falling treetop broke the window of an operator's cab skylight. A piece of window material entered the cab injuring the operator. The skylight that failed conformed to the applicable industry test standard for falling object protection, and the basic design has been in use for many years.

Using machines in dying or dead forests, as has become increasingly common in several regions, exposes the cab to more frequent impacts from larger, heavier falling tops. This significant change in the operating environment heightens the need to properly maintain the skylight as an essential piece of operator protective equipment.

The skylight window material is expected to absorb high levels of energy when impacted by falling debris. Inspect the skylight assembly daily, and immediately after any impacts. Damage to the window material or steel structure in the area of the window mounting can seriously reduce the protection level of the skylight assembly.

The following checks and actions should be followed or the window's ability to protect the operator will be reduced:

- Edges of the window must be evenly supported on a flat surface, be free from cracks or chips, and must not be pinched or stressed. Bent or dented window retaining parts or skylight structures should be replaced immediately.
- Cracks, chips, or scarring anywhere on the window's surface will decrease its impact strength. Windows with these defects must be replaced immediately.
- Only approved window materials may be used for this application. Identification is hot stamped into a corner of the window to identify its material composition. Do not use any window without proof of its material composition. Do not substitute materials other than the type specified for the machine.
- Rubber materials used in mounting the window must also be maintained in good condition.
- Some cleaners can seriously weaken the window material. Do not use window cleaners other than those specified in the operator's manual applicable to your Tigercat machine model.
- Skylights should not be modified or replaced with non-Tigercat approved parts.

Please alert all members of both your Service and Sales staff to the existence of this Bulletin. They should discuss this bulletin immediately with all owners, operators, and mechanics of all Tigercat machines.