

# Idaho Logging Safety News

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## **"VOLUNTEERS" FROM THE LOGGING INDUSTRY HELP GET THE IDAHO MINIMUM SAFETY STANDARDS AND PRACTICES FOR LOGGING UPDATED!**



*Tony Messenger, yarder operator for Dabco Logging, gave us some very good suggestions on what needed to be updated. Tony only needs one hand to run the yarder so he had the other hand free to thumb through the Logging Standards.*



*Rod Corder on the right, tries to explain to processor operator Rich Smith that not only did he spend hours helping to clean up the Standards, he also redesigned the Cover in between loading trucks! Rod and Rich keep things "interesting" at Kuykendall Logging!*



*To the left, Ryan Renfro holds up a copy of the Standards he helped update. The first edition of the Idaho Minimum Safety Standards and Practices For Logging was printed in 1952, which is about the time Ryan's dad and uncle started skidding logs themselves. Since Kenny and Jerry are still ram rodding Renfro Logging after all these years, some of that safety stuff must have worked!*

*Related story on page 4*

## TIM FULLER LOGGING DOES A GOOD JOB ALL THE WAY AROUND!

By Galen Hamilton

Every time I visit a job that Tim and his crew are doing, two things stick out. First is how “clean” of a job of logging they are doing and Second is their positive attitude towards doing things right, and that includes safety.

On this day Raymond was telling Tim about getting some trees on the ground and moved around a main water supply line. Tim said, “You are the one around there, don’t damage the line, get what you can safely, nobody gets hurt”.

Sounds like pretty darn good advice to me!



*Tim Fuller along with Raymond and Sheldon Moore. Raymond moves wood with the skidder into his dad who operates the processor.*



## R & R CONSTRUCTION BELIEVES IN BEING PREPARED!

By Terry Streeter

Randy Ross has been a logging contractor since 1979 and the experience shows. I visited R & R Construction the other day and when I mentioned something about an accident, he pulled out his *emergency rescue plan*. He knew exactly what he was going to do in case of an emergency.

Randy and his wife Anne run a crew of about eighteen men. Anne also does the books and keeps Randy in line! I have known Randy since 1985. He has always been good to talk with and willing to help a fellow out through the years. His crew is helpful, professional, good to be around and dang happy to be working! The effort Randy, Anne and their crew makes on the safety side of things is impressive and appreciated. Good Job Guys!

Randy gave me so much good information, I think I will pass it along in an article, which starts on page 4!



*Randy Ross holds his company’s emergency rescue plan which he compares to “a simple check list”.*

## ***ODDS OF BEING HIT BY LIGHTNING ARE NOT BAD, UNLESS YOU ARE A LOGGER!!!***



**By Monte Biggers**

Galen called me the other day with news that his house had almost been totaled by a lightning strike. Fearing the worst I asked about his wife and daughters. “They are O.K.”, he replied. “Well did the house catch on fire” I asked? In a very sad voice he responded, “No, it is much worse than that”. By now you could almost picture the tears streaming down his cheeks. Not knowing what to think I said, “FOR GOSH SAKES TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED!” With agony in his voice he replied, “It blew up the big screen”. The first thought that came to mind with this news was there had to be a newsletter article here somewhere. As I was running the idea past him about how we could tell everyone about lightning safety and the need for surge protectors on all of our important electronic equipment, he started yelling into the phone. I am sure that the noises he was making were shouts of joy. Encouraged I hung up and started to do some research on lightning safety.

I learned some interesting facts about lightning during my research. It takes 10,000 volts to make a 1 inch spark. Lightning has millions of volts and can easily jump 10 to 20 feet. In the U.S. the odds of being struck are 1 in 1,700,000. Sounds like long odds until you figure in the things that increase those odds. They are: *being outside in a high place, in a clearing surrounded by metal, carrying a power tool or next to a tall tree.* Sounds pretty much like most logging jobs....or Galen’s house! You can estimate how far lightning is from you by counting the seconds between the flash and when you hear thunder. 5 seconds = 1 mile. They recommend that you seek cover when it is 25 seconds or less between the flash and the thunder. In many sequential lightning storms the bolts strike 6 to 8 miles apart. If you feel your skin tingle or your hair start to rise, drop to the ground immediately. This is an indication that lightning is going to strike very close.

If you are indoors in a lightning storm the first thing you should do is stay put. Inside of an enclosed house or other building is a very safe place to be. While inside stay off corded phones, computers and other electrical equipment that puts you in direct contact with electricity. You should also stay away from windows, tubs, showers and other plumbing. Water and metal conduct electricity very well. You should stay inside for 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder is heard.

If caught outside in a lightning storm you should avoid water, any object made entirely of metal, high ground, open spaces, power tools and any tall isolated objects (such as trees!) If possible take cover in a vehicle and roll up the windows. While in the vehicle avoid using 2 way radios or phones. If you can’t get to a vehicle you should seek out a ditch, ravine or the lowest spot possible. Kneel down and cover your ears. One of the more common injuries suffered is hearing loss from a thunder clap. I suppose ear plugs or muffs would help avoid this. Large rocks, caves, tents or any shelter that is not completely enclosed offers little protection from lightning and should be avoided. If there are 2 or more people caught in the open stay at least 15 feet apart.

If someone is killed by lightning the odds are that they died from cardiac arrest. You should call for E.M.S and start CPR immediately. If you get to them soon enough, you may be able to save them. Other common non- fatal injuries are electrical burns, loss of sight and loss of hearing. The first aid for these types of burns is the same as any other burn.

After I decided to write this article I was up in Salmon and heard a truly sad story of a cowboy that had been fatally struck by lightning the day before I arrived. Nothing scientific here, just some thoughts from some old timers. It seemed to them that while the frequency of lightning strikes seems to have decreased, their intensity has increased. I tend to agree. Something to think about anyway.

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## ***LOGGING COMMUNITY HELPS UPDATE SAFETY STANDARDS***

A big THANK YOU needs to go out to all the logging folks that helped us update the Idaho Logging Standards. **Ron Glaze—Kelly Glaze Logging, Tony Messenger—Dabco Logging, Ryan Renfro—Renfro Logging, Rod Corder—Kuykendall Logging, Blaine and Gary Wilcox—Wilcox Logging, Mary Ann McLaughlin—McLaughlin Logging, Frank Howerton—Howerton Logging, Dan Muselman—ALC Services, and last but not least, Shawn Keogh—Associated Logging Contractors.**

The Idaho Minimum Safety Standards And Practices For Logging have been around since 1952 when groups from logging, sawmills and labor authored the first one. It has been updated several times over the years with the intent of keeping the rules somewhat current.

The main goal of these Standards is to give our logging industry a good guideline to go by to reduce the chance of accidents in the woods. Along with that, Idaho's Minimum Standards need to meet other safety rules for the industry. With those two things in mind, our previously mentioned crew set to work.

Most of the changes were minor; a few “*shoulds*” to “*shalls*”, *all loggers* need first aid training (even truck drivers), *warning signs* on logging jobs and *emergency rescue plan* requirements were addressed. These are items that most of you loggers have already dealt with, we just needed to get them in writing.

We will be dropping these books off at your job sites so pass them around to the crew. Each logger should take the time to study the sections that relate to their specific job. I think it will surprise many of the guys just how close they are to doing everything correctly according to the rule book! Maybe documenting a safety meeting every now and then or letting the crew know where the MSDS sheets are located will be all it takes to get that logging crew up to snuff!

Comparing the 1952 Standards to today's reminded me how much change there has been in the logging industry over those years. It also reminded me how many things are still the same. Logging is an honorable occupation, but continues to be very unforgiving. LOG SAFE!

## **YOUR COMPANY'S EMERGENCY PLAN, A SIMPLE CHECK LIST**



**By Terry Streeter**

I don't care who you are, in an emergency situation with an injured logger down on the ground, things get hectic. You are scared, panicked and worried that you might do the wrong thing. It's a normal reaction. Pilots use a check list before they leave the ground. In the air, if something goes wrong and they can't figure it out, they go to the checklist to make sure they haven't missed anything.

So, where is our loggers checklist? You know that red book up on the dash that you write part numbers in or use to shim up a rattling CB, that is it! **Wondering who to get a hold of, where does the cell phone work at, who is going to drive, where do we take him** are all questions you should not have to deal with in a “tense” moment.

With your emergency plan filled out ahead of time, and your crew trained in what and where it is, you should know: *Who to call, job site GPS coordinates, directions by road, radio frequencies, phone numbers* and whatever other information you feel important. If there is an accident, grab the “red book”—no guess work, just a simple CHECK LIST!

# KELLY GLAZE LOGGING GIVES AN EXTRA EFFORT TO RUN A SAFE LOGGING OPERATION

By Cliff Osborne

Glaze Logging moves wood for Potlatch Corporation and usually works around the Elk River and Clarkia area. This outfit moves the majority of the timber with a 98-Link Belt Yarder, but on occasion they use their cats, skidder or loaders to shovel log, whatever it takes.

While I was on their job we discussed cable records for the line machine and talked about how often they changed different cables on the yarder. “Keep a close eye on all your lines. Once you see strands starting to fray change them, they go quick. Safety is the number one concern but you don’t want the down time a broken line creates”. I couldn’t argue with that!

This is an exceptional logging crew that is very experienced and falls under that title we all strive for: **THEY ALWAYS WORK SAFELY AND ARE VERY, VERY PRODUCTIVE!**



*Ron Glaze and son Jesse do some maintenance on the processor. You can tell by Jesse’s clothes that he has been down in the “bowels” of this machine, which is just part of logging!*



*Matt Larson, 98 Operator  
Francis Larson, Processor*



*Shawn Cochrane, Hooker*



*John Ely, Hooker  
Clint Krasselt, Loader*

*The Glazes give a bunch of credit to their experienced crew for allowing them to run such a safe operation.*

*Clint has to be the “best dressed” loader operator in Idaho. He is known to wear his hard hat every where so Clint put his ball cap on for this picture as a joke!*

**GREAT JOB GUYS**



## ***A DARN GOOD IDEA THAT MIGHT EVEN SAVE YOU SOME MONEY!***

**By Monte Biggers**

*(editors note: Celox is a blood clotting agent. There are other brands out there and we are not promoting one kind over another)*

I was reading through a magazine the other day and came across some information I thought I would pass along. The article mentioned that it might be a good idea to have 2 first aid kits instead of 1. One kit could be what they classified as the “*snivel*” kit. It would be the basic kit like you would find on any logging job. As they put it, unless someone was spouting arterial blood or really injured, this is the kit you would use.

(The term “*snivel kit*” may be replaced with “*truck driver kit*”, “*sale administrator kit*”, “*log scaler kit*”, etc. I strongly suggest however, you look at the size of the person and their occupation before saying it out loud!)

The second kit would be a “trauma pack” that would contain a blood borne pathogen kit, compresses, a package of Celox and maybe some Celox bandages. This is the kit that you would use if someone was suffering deadly bleeding or severely injured. This kit would be in a sealed and labeled package. People that had access to these kits (the crew) would be instructed not to open the trauma kit unless someone was in dire need of first aid.

Their reasoning for the 2 kits was that throughout the year first aid kits often get raided for minor injuries and when a real emergency happens, the supplies you need are often gone or damaged. Having a separate trauma kit might just save a life. At first glance it did not seem like they included enough in the trauma kit, but as they put it, “treating deadly bleeding is the most common use for a first aid kit in a life threatening situation”. Celox use has been simplified and they have added pre-treated bandages to their line of products. It is not very expensive and I recommend everyone should include a clotting agent in their first aid kits.

Also, since we are well along in the season it might be a good idea to drag out your companies (and the one at your home) first aid kits, and check to see if they still have their required content.

Just to help you out, here is the list of required contents for the first aid kit. Remember, this is for a 2 or 3 man operation. If your crew is larger you can add more kits or add additional quantities of supplies to your existing kits.

1. Gauze pads (at least 4 x 4 inches) — 2. Two large gauze pads (at least 8x 10 inches) —3. Box of adhesive bandages (band-aids) —4. One package gauze roller bandage (at least 2 inch) —5. Two triangular bandages — 6. Wound cleaning agent such as sealed moistened towelettes — 7. Scissors — 8. At least one blanket — 9. Tweezers — 10. Adhesive tape — 11. Latex Gloves 12. Resuscitation equipment such as a resuscitation bag, airway or pocket mask — 13. Two elastic wraps — 14. Splint — 15. Directions for requesting emergency help.

### *Safety Advisors*

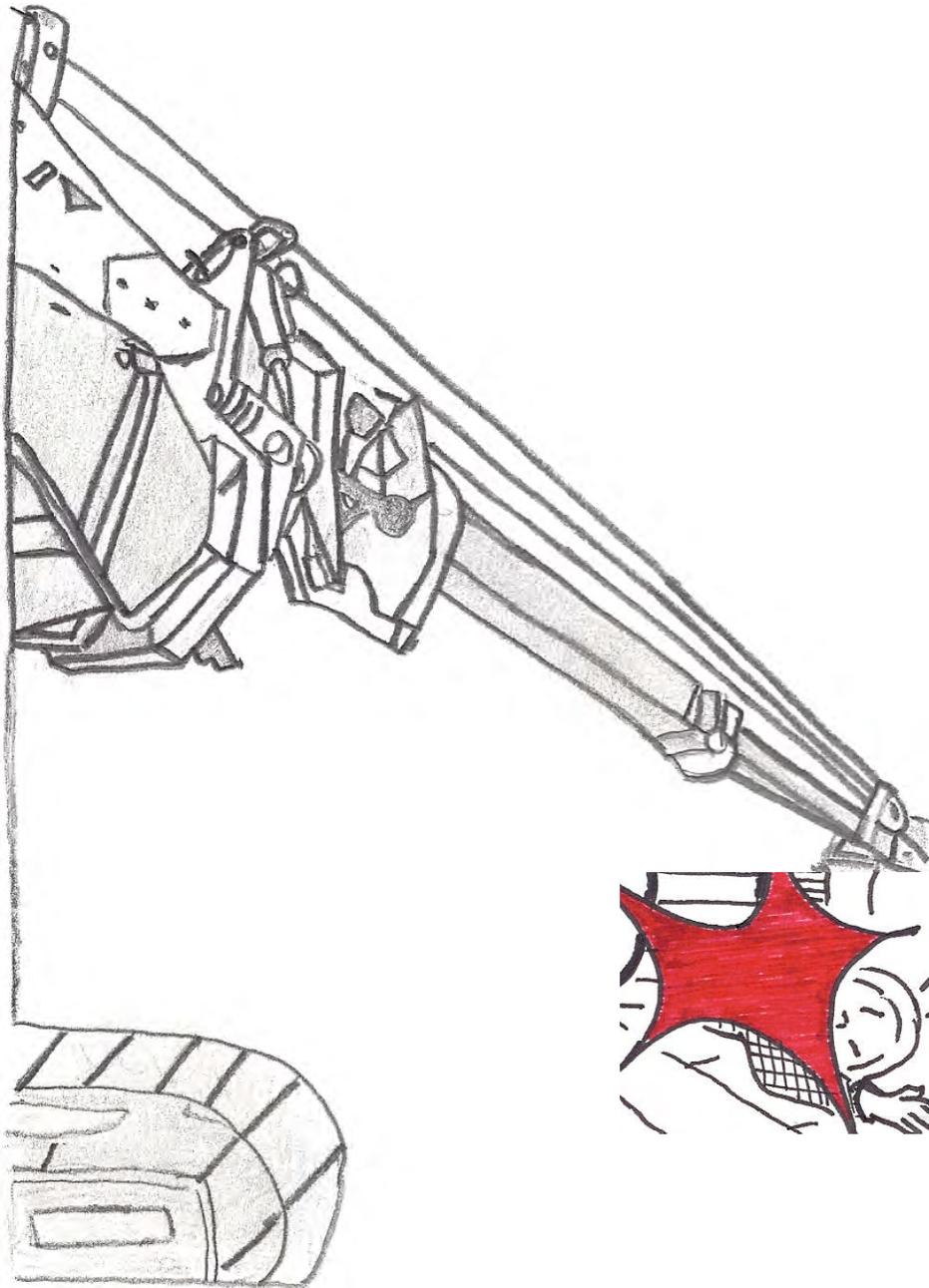
*Terry Streeter 446-4149  
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*Monte Biggers 369-6631  
Galen Hamilton 935-0401*



***Hey, I've got an owey over here!***

## IDAHO LOGGING FATALITY #1 2010



**A very experienced logger was killed while helping with some maintenance work on a processor. They were resetting the machines measuring “marks” on the machine. The logger had set his tape at the butt plate and walked out to the cut off saw to make sure the measurement was true. The head was in the air and just as the logger reached to measure, a weld broke allowing the head to come down landing on the logger.**

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