

Mounting and dismounting equipment is one of the most dangerous activities associated with equipment. The reason for this is due to a variety of factors:

- Rushing and not paying attention to foot or hand placement
- Slippery or obstructed surfaces

***Things You Can Do to Reduce Injuries Due to Mounting and Dismounting:***

- **ALWAYS** read the Operation & Maintenance Manual for proper mounting and dismounting procedures
- **ALWAYS** inspect the ground before climbing up or down. Note where feet will be placed to avoid a twisted or sprained ankle.
- **ALWAYS** check the condition of the steps, ladders and rails for mud, water, ice, dust or any other material that could cause slips.
- **ALWAYS** maintain three points of control when mounting and dismounting equipment –
  - This means you always have two feet and one hand or two hands and one foot in contact with the machine, so you maintain control.
  - Doing so means not carrying items when mounting or dismounting equipment.
  - If carrying items up and down from the cab is necessary, place the item(s) on a bench or a ledge of the equipment and stagger step the items up or down with the extra hand while maintaining three points of control, or you can also use a rope to raise or lower the items.
- **ALWAYS** mount and dismount while facing the equipment
- **ALWAYS** inspect the condition of rails and guarding for damage and effectiveness.
- **ALWAYS** close and latch gates, as required, for fall protection.
- **ALWAYS** close doors to the equipment in case the outside grab bars are used as handles while climbing in or out.
- **DO NOT RUSH** – Take the time needed to properly enter and exit the equipment; do not skip steps or rungs in the ladder.



