

Welcome to Hard Hat Training Series!



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Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series! Today's training will focus on the efficient operation and safety principles of concrete power buggies and provide information to make you a safer operator.

Image from twitter.com



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History

For years, construction workers have used the trusty wheelbarrow to transport loose materials like dirt or wet concrete across a worksite. Although this has been a dependable method, the invention of the power buggy in the 1950s by Multiquip's Whiteman division has been a great help to construction workers.



Image from industromart.com



The power buggy can carry thousands of pounds worth of material and can transport a load three times faster than a wheelbarrow. It is not as physically demanding on workers like the wheelbarrow because operators only need to manage the controls rather than push the load around. Although it is extremely helpful in transporting material at the worksite, it can be dangerous if handled improperly. Consider the following case study.

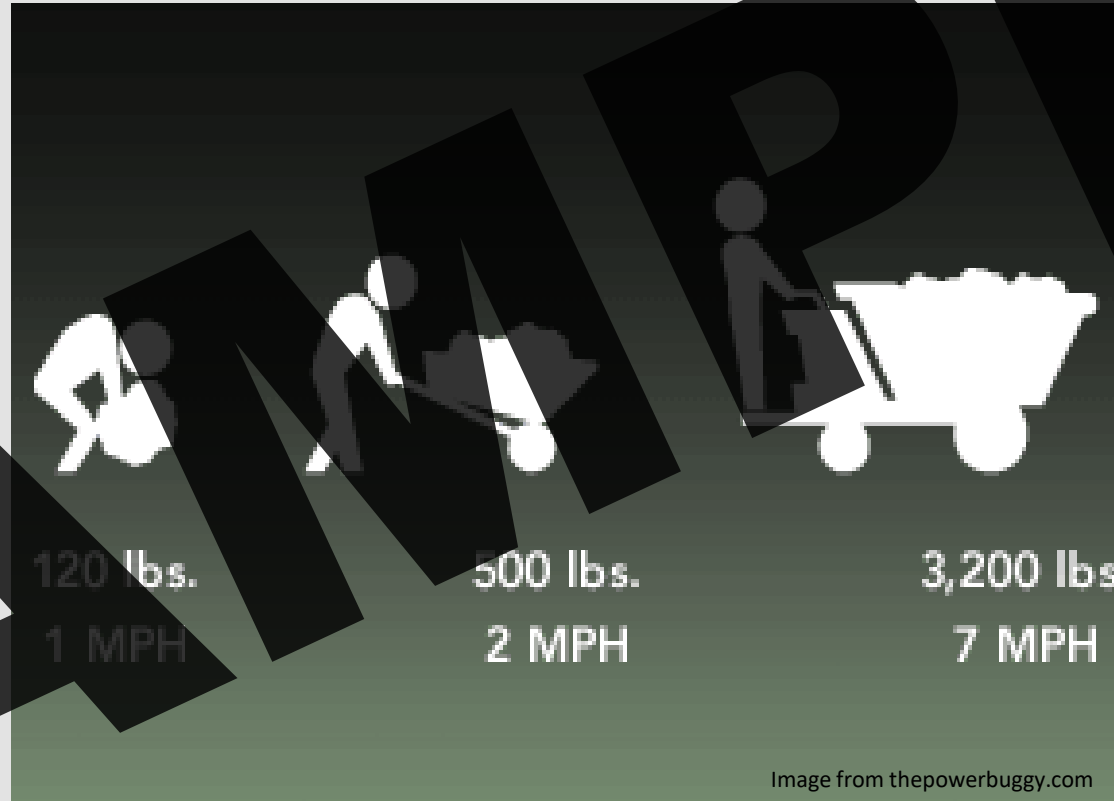


Image from thepowerbuggy.com



An experienced worker was riding a power buggy down a slope. His load was full, and he was going a slow, appropriate speed. He noticed that if he continued straight down the slope, he would end up far away from his targeted location. He decided to change course on the slope, going down at a slant instead of a straight line.





Although the speed didn't change, the slant threw off the buggy's stability and his load shifted, tipping the power buggy and knocking him from the operator's platform. Unfortunately, he was crushed by the weight of the power buggy and was later pronounced dead at the hospital.



Although this worker was experienced and didn't do anything seemingly dangerous, he made a poor decision and it ended up costing him his life. It's important that you always pay attention to the dangers in your work area and make sure that you know what hazards exist around you, no matter how long you've been working a job.



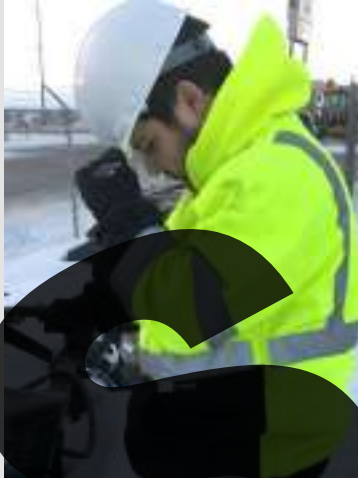
There are, on average, around 4,700 work-related deaths, 970 of which are in the construction field. No matter how long you've been working in construction, it's important to remember that any mistake, no matter how small, could have severe consequences. You must always remain vigilant and aware in your workplace so that you can prevent accidents from happening.



Goal of This Training

The goal for this training is to educate you on the proper care, maintenance, and operation of concrete power buggies so that you can keep yourself and others safe. We will accomplish this as we address the following topics:

- The basic anatomy of power buggies and how to inspect them
- Proper personal protective equipment to wear while operating
- Safe operating procedures
- Common hazards you'll face during regular operations





STANDARDS

- OSH Act of 1970, 5(a)(1): *“Each employer shall furnish to each of his employees [...] a place of employment which is free from recognized hazards that are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees.”*
- 29 CFR 1910.132(d): *PPE*
- 29 CFR 1926.702 (Subpart Q) - requirements for equipment and tools

These are some of the main standards concerning concrete power buggies. Many companies have additional standards. It is your responsibility to know all company rules that apply to your equipment and job site, as well as familiarize yourself with all local, state or provincial, and federal laws and regulations that apply to power buggies.



Necessity for Training & Retraining

Anyone who operates equipment must receive training prior to maneuvering the machine on their own. As noted below, requirements for refresher training are very specific.

Did You Know?

Regulations specify that an operator **must** take a refresher course if any of the following apply:

- The operator is observed operating the equipment in an **unsafe** manner (e.g., no seatbelt, reckless driving, etc.)
- The operator is involved in an **accident** **or** a **near miss**
- The operator received a **poor evaluation** for performance
- The operator is required to **use a different type of machine** **or** **attachment**
- Workplace conditions have changed

Additionally, regulations state that it is the employer who is responsible for determining the frequency of refresher training.



OSHA's standards also state that for some machines, refresher training must take place every three years. Even for machines that aren't specified, it is best practice to do refresher training at least every three years. A so-called "free pass" can't just be awarded based on experience, age, or time on the job. The extent of the evaluation is to be determined by the employer, but should include a written and practical examination that prove continued competency.

The OSHA logo, featuring a blue circular icon with a white 'O' and the letters 'SHA' in a large, black, serif font, followed by a registered trademark symbol (®).

Training Documentation

Initial training, as well as any evaluations or refresher courses, must be documented with the name of the person or persons who taught the class or conducted the evaluation. Although OSHA doesn't require wallet cards as proof of training, many companies and worksites do require onsite proof that you have been trained. At the very least, in the case of an investigation, OSHA will want to see proof of proper and consistent training (in the way of training outlines, class lists, training goals, tests, certificates, etc.)

Anatomy

SAMPLE



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