

Union County Standard Operating Guidelines  
**Special Operations**

**Special Operations, SOG 4.06**

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**MACHINERY RESCUE**

I. Intent and Purpose

To provide guidelines for the safe method of rescue from machinery. All personnel involved in rescue operations shall adhere to the procedures set forth in order to insure the safety of all personnel.

II. Procedure

1) Upon arrival:

- a. Insure that all power is shut off to the machine involved and locked out. Officer in Charge shall maintain key. If lock out is not possible, have a firefighter (with radio) standby the switch(s) to insure that power is not accidentally restored while rescue operations are underway.
- b. Insure area of Operations is secured for scene safety.
- c. If possible, obtain technical assistance from foreman, leadsman, or other knowledgeable person.
- d. Request necessary assistance as required.
- e. Consider other “specialized” resources.

2) Operations, general:

- a. Utilize special tools or equipment, which may be kept on hand in the shop or facility for such emergencies.
- b. With wrenches, you may be able to remove gears, chains, etc., sufficiently to get the enmeshed member out. In general do not spare the machinery.
- c. Provide emergency medical care per EMS protocol as soon as possible, and to the injury after extrication.
- d. In some cases, it may be necessary for a trapped body to be removed from the machinery by a surgical operation. Follow EMS Medical protocol. It also may be possible to dismantle the involved machine to the point where the patient may be transported to the hospital with the injuring machine component still attached.
- e. The I.C. and Operations Officer should have a good understanding of the machines operation before parts are removed. For every action there is a reaction.
- f. UCFD personnel will not use machine power to move the machine (i.e. reverse) if possible do so manually.