

Product: Bobcat 553 Skid Steer Loader Service Repair Workshop Manual 520311001-520411001

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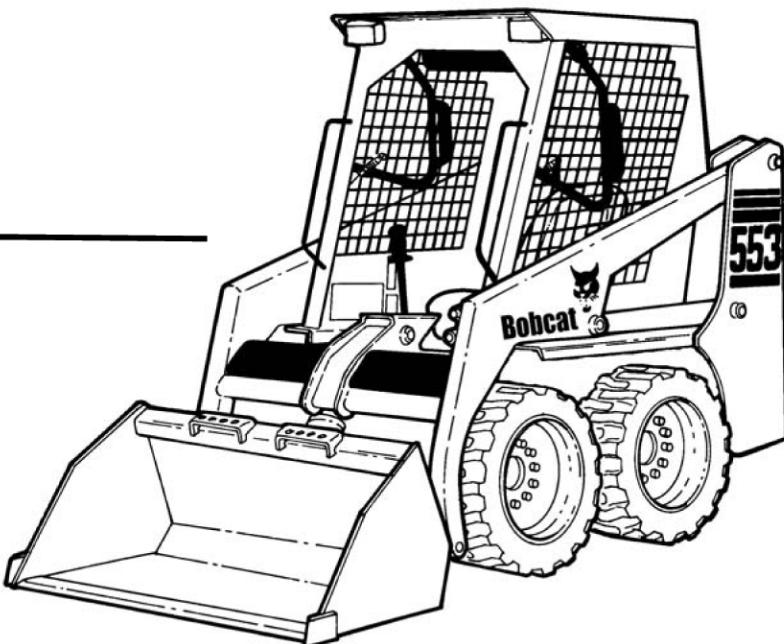


Bobcat®

553

Service Manual

**S/N 520311001 & Above
S/N 520411001 & Above**



EQUIPPED WITH
BOBCAT INTERLOCK
CONTROL SYSTEM (BICS)
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MAINTENANCE SAFETY



WARNING

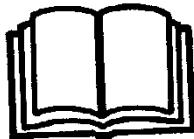
Instructions are necessary before operating or servicing machine. Read and understand the Operation & Maintenance Manual, Operator's Handbook and signs (decals) on machine. Follow warnings and instructions in the manuals when making repairs, adjustments or servicing. Check for correct function after adjustments, repairs or service. Untrained operators and failure to follow instructions can cause injury or death.

W-2003-0903



Safety Alert Symbol: This symbol with a warning statement, means: "Warning, be alert! Your safety is involved!" Carefully read the message that follows.

CORRECT



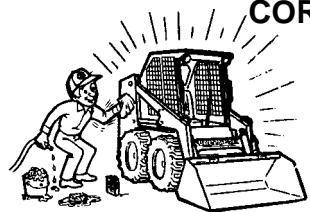
B-10731a

CORRECT



B-12365

CORRECT



B-7469

⚠ Never service the Bobcat Skid-Steer Loader without instructions.

WRONG



B-11799

⚠ Have good ventilation when welding or grinding painted parts.
⚠ Wear dust mask when grinding painted parts. Toxic dust and gas can be produced.
⚠ Avoid exhaust fume leaks which can kill without warning. Exhaust system must be tightly sealed.

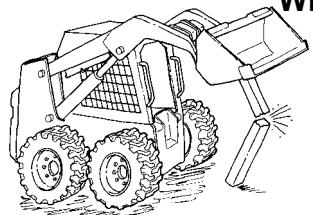
WRONG



B-15231

⚠ Disconnecting or loosening any hydraulic tubeline, hose, fitting, component or a part failure can cause lift arms to drop. Do not go under lift arms when raised unless supported by an approved lift arm support device. Replace it if damaged.

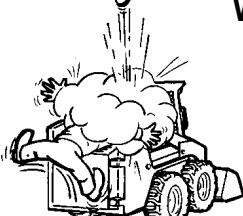
WRONG



B-15280

⚠ Never work on loader with lift arms up unless lift arms are held by an approved lift arm support device. Replace if damaged.
⚠ Never modify equipment or add attachments not approved by Bobcat Company.

WRONG



B-6590

⚠ Stop, cool and clean engine of flammable materials before checking fluids.
⚠ Never service or adjust loader with the engine running unless instructed to do so in the manual.
⚠ Avoid contact with leaking hydraulic fluid or diesel fuel under pressure. It can penetrate the skin or eyes.
⚠ Never fill fuel tank with engine running, while smoking or when near open flame.

WRONG



B-6580

⚠ Keep body, jewelry and clothing away from moving parts, electrical contact, hot parts and exhaust.
⚠ Wear eye protection to guard from battery acid, compressed springs, fluids under pressure and flying debris when engines are running or tools are used. Use eye protection approved for type of welding.
⚠ Keep rear door closed except for service. Close and latch door before operating the loader.

WRONG



B-6589

⚠ Lead-acid batteries produce flammable and explosive gases.
⚠ Keep arcs, sparks, flames and lighted tobacco away from batteries.
⚠ Batteries contain acid which burns eyes or skin on contact. Wear protective clothing. If acid contacts body, flush well with water. For eye contact flush well and get immediate medical attention.

Maintenance procedures which are given in the Operation & Maintenance Manual can be performed by the owner/operator without any specific technical training. Maintenance procedures which are **not** in the Operation & Maintenance Manual must be performed **ONLY BY QUALIFIED BOBCAT SERVICE PERSONNEL**. Always use genuine Bobcat replacement parts. The Service Safety Training Course is available from your Bobcat dealer.

MSW01-0805



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ALPHABETICAL INDEX

AIR CLEANER	70-01	LIFT ARM	50-01
AIR CLEANER SERVICE	10-01	LIFT ARM BY-PASS CONTROL VALVE	20-01
ALTERNATOR	60-01	LIFT ARM SUPPORT DEVICE	10-01
AUXILIARY CONTROL LOCKBOLT	10-01	LIFTING AND BLOCKING THE LOADER	10-01
BATTERY	60-01	LIGHTS	60-01
BICS™ SYSTEM (WITH PRESS TO OPERATE BUTTON)	60-01	LOADER SPECIFICATIONS	SPEC-01
BLOWER FAN HOUSING	70-01	LUBRICATION OF THE BOBCAT LOADER	10-01
BOBCAT INTERLOCK CONTROL SYSTEM (BICS™)	60-01		
BOB-TACH	10-01, 50-01		
CHAINCASE	40-01		
CONTROL PANEL	30-01		
CONTROL PEDALS	50-01		
CONVERSIONS	SPEC-01		
CYLINDER (LIFT)	20-01		
CYLINDER (TILT)	20-01		
DRIVE COMPONENTS	40-01		
ELECTRICAL SYSTEM INFORMATION	60-01		
ENGINE	70-01		
ENGINE COMPONENTS AND TESTING	70-01		
ENGINE COOLING SYSTEM	10-01		
ENGINE LUBRICATION SYSTEM	10-01		
ENGINE SPECIFICATIONS	SPEC-01		
ENGINE SPEED CONTROL	70-01		
FINAL DRIVE TRANSMISSION (CHAINCASE) ..	10-01		
FLYWHEEL	70-01		
FUEL SYSTEM	10-01		
FUEL TANK	50-01		
HYDRAULIC CONTROL VALVE	20-01		
HYDRAULIC FILTER HOUSING	20-01		
HYDRAULIC FLUID RESERVOIR	20-01		
HYDRAULIC FLUID SPECIFICATIONS	SPEC-01		
HYDRAULIC PUMP	20-01		
HYDRAULIC/HYDROSTATIC FLUID SPECIFICATIONS	SPEC-01		
HYDRAULIC/HYDROSTATIC SYSTEM	10-01		
HYDRAULIC SYSTEM INFORMATION	20-01		
HYDROSTATIC MOTOR	30-01		
HYDROSTATIC PUMP	30-01		
HYDROSTATIC SYSTEM INFORMATION	30-01		
INSTRUMENT PANEL	60-01		
		MAIN RELIEF VALVE	20-01
		MUFFLER	70-01
		OIL COOLER	30-01
		OPERATOR CAB	10-01, 50-01
		OPERATOR SEAT	50-01
		PARKING BRAKE	40-01
		PIVOT PINS	10-01
		PORT BLOCK	30-01
		RADIATOR	70-01
		REAR DOOR	50-01
		REAR GRILL	50-01
		RECONDITIONING THE ENGINE	70-01
		REMOTE START	10-01
		RUBBER COUPLER LUBRICATION	10-01
		RUBBER DRIVE COUPLER	70-01
		SEAT BAR	50-01
		SEAT BAR RESTRAINT SYSTEM	01-01
		SERVICE SCHEDULE	10-01
		SPARK ARRESTOR MUFFLER	10-01
		STARTER	60-01
		STEERING	30-01
		TIRE MAINTENANCE	10-01
		TORQUE SPECIFICATIONS FOR BOLTS ..	SPEC-01
		TOWING THE LOADER	10-01
		TRANSPORTING THE BOBCAT LOADER	10-01
		TROUBLESHOOTING	70-01
		WATER FLANGE	70-01



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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	II
SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS	V
SERIAL NUMBER LOCATION	IX
DELIVERY REPORT.....	X
BOBCAT LOADER IDENTIFICATION.....	XI
SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE.....	10-01
HYDRAULIC SYSTEM	20-01
HYDROSTATIC SYSTEM.....	30-01
DRIVE SYSTEM	40-01
MAIN FRAME	50-01
ELECTRICAL SYSTEM	60-01
ENGINE SERVICE	70-01
SPECIFICATIONS.....	SPEC-01

**SAFETY &
MAINTENANCE**

**HYDRAULIC
SYSTEM**

**HYDROSTATIC
SYSTEM**

**DRIVE
SYSTEM**

MAIN FRAME

**ELECTRICAL
SYSTEM**

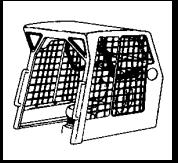
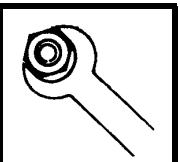
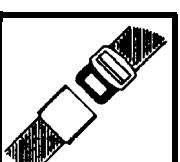
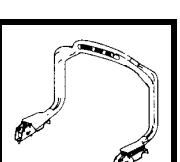
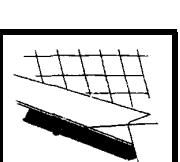
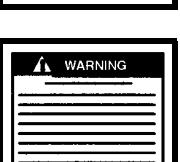
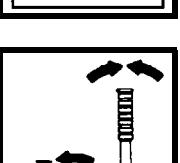
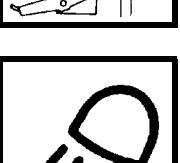
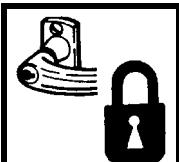
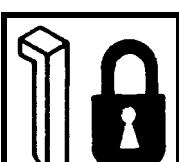
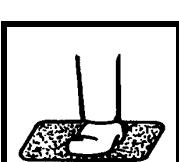
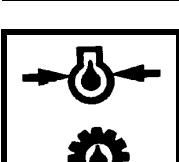
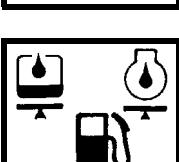
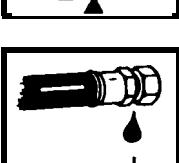
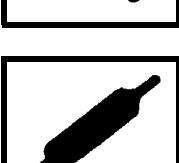
**ENGINE
SERVICE**

SPECIFICATIONS

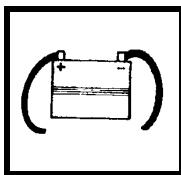
FOREWORD

This manual is for the Bobcat loader mechanic. It provides necessary servicing and adjustment procedures for the Bobcat loader and its component parts and systems. Refer to the Operation & Maintenance Manual for operating instructions, Starting procedure, daily checks, etc.

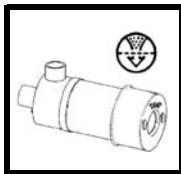
A general inspection of the following items must be made after the loader has had service or repair:

1. Check lift arm support device, replace if damaged. (Stored Position) 
2. Check that ROPS mounting hardware is tightened and is Bobcat approved. 
3. The seat belt must be correctly installed, functional and in good condition. 
4. The seat bar must be correctly adjusted, clean and lubricated. 
5. Check lift arm support device; replace if damaged. 
6. Machine signs must be legible and in the correct location. 
7. Steering levers and foot pedals must return to neutral. 
8. Check for correct function of the work lights 
9. The parking brake must function correctly. 
10. Enclosure door latches must open and close freely. 
11. Bob-Tach wedges and linkages must function correctly and be in good condition. 
12. Safety treads must be in good condition. 
13. Check for correct function of indicator lamps (Optional on some models). 
14. Check hydraulic fluid level, engine oil level and fuel supply. 
15. Inspect for fuel, oil or hydraulic fluid leaks. 
16. Lubricate the loader. 

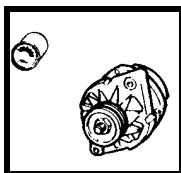
17. Check the condition of the battery and cables.



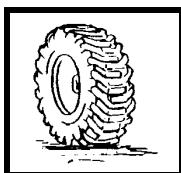
18. Inspect the air cleaner for damage or leaks. Check the condition of the element.



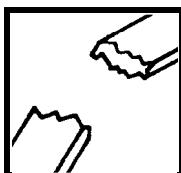
19. Check the electrical charging system.



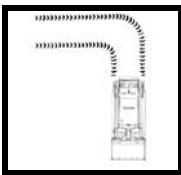
20. Check tires for wear and pressure.



21. Inspect for loose or broken parts or connections.



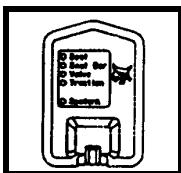
22. Operate the loader and check all functions.



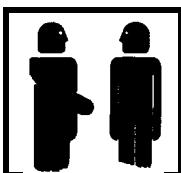
23. Check for any field modification not completed.



24. Check for correct function of the Bobcat Interlock Control System (BICS™) before the machine is returned to the customer.



Recommend to the owner that all necessary corrections be made before the machine is returned to service.



**CALIFORNIA
PROPOSITION 65 WARNING**

Diesel engine exhaust and some of its constituents are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm.



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SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS



Safety Alert Symbol

**This symbol with a warning statement means:
"Warning, be alert! Your safety is involved!"
Carefully read the message that follows.**



WARNING

Instructions are necessary before operating or servicing machine. Read and understand the Operation & Maintenance Manual, Operator's Handbook and signs (decals) on machine. Follow warnings and instructions in the manuals when making repairs, adjustments or servicing. Check for correct function after adjustments, repairs or service. Untrained operators and failure to follow instructions can cause injury or death.

W-2003-0903



WARNING

Warnings on the machine and in the manuals are for your safety. Failure to obey warnings can cause injury or death.

W-2044-1285

IMPORTANT

This notice identifies procedures which must be followed to avoid damage to the machine.

I-2019-0284

The following publications provide information on the safe use and maintenance of the Bobcat machine and attachments:

- The Delivery Report is used to assure that complete instructions have been given to the new owner and that the machine is in safe operating condition.
- The Operation & Maintenance Manual delivered with the machine or attachment contains operating information as well as routine maintenance and service procedures. It is a part of the machine and can be stored in a container provided on the machine. Replacement Operation & Maintenance Manuals can be ordered from your Bobcat dealer.
- Machine signs (decals) instruct on the safe operation and care of your Bobcat machine or attachment. The signs and their locations are shown in the Operation & Maintenance Manual. Replacement signs are available from your Bobcat dealer.
- An Operator's Handbook fastened to the operator cab. It's brief instructions are convenient to the operator. The handbook is available from your dealer in an English edition or one of many other languages. See your Bobcat dealer for more information on translated versions.
- The AEM Safety Manual delivered with the machine gives general safety information.
- The Service Manual and Parts Manual are available from your dealer for use by mechanics to do shop-type service and repair work.
- The Skid-Steer Loader Operator Training Course is available through your local dealer or at www.training.bobcat.com or www.bobcat.com. This course is intended to provide rules and practices of correct operation of the Skid-Steer Loader. The course is available in English and Spanish versions.
- Service Safety Training Courses are available from your Bobcat dealer or at www.training.bobcat.com or www.bobcat.com. They provide information for safe and correct service procedures.
- The Skid-Steer Loader Safety Video is available from your Bobcat dealer or at www.training.bobcat.com or www.bobcat.com.

SI SSL-0206 SM

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS (CONT'D)

The dealer and owner/operator review the recommended uses of the product when delivered. If the owner/operator will be using the machine for a different application(s) he or she must ask the dealer for recommendations on the new use.



Call Before You Dig

1-888-258-0808

When you call, you will be directed to a location in your state/city for information about buried lines (telephone, cable TV, water, sewer, gas, etc.)

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS (CONT'D)

Fire Prevention

The machine and attachments have components that are at high temperature under normal operating conditions. The primary source of high temperatures is the engine and exhaust system. The electrical system, if damaged or incorrectly maintained, can be a source of arcs or sparks.

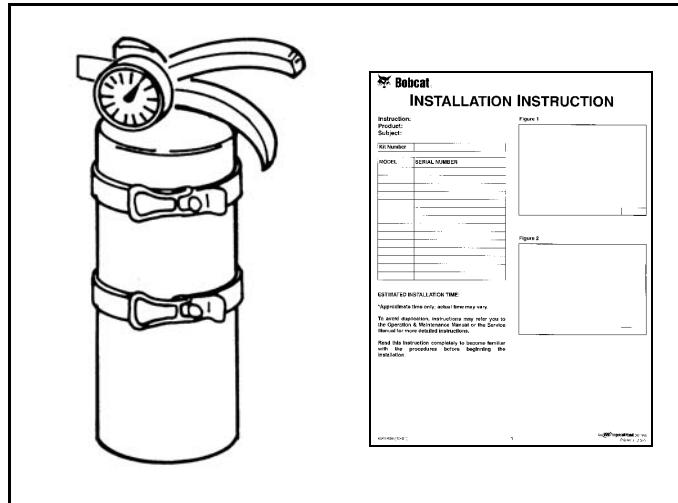
Flammable debris (leaves, straw, etc.) must be removed regularly. If flammable debris is allowed to accumulate, it will increase fire hazard. Clean often to avoid this accumulation. Flammable debris in the engine compartment is a potential hazard.

The spark arrestor muffler is designed to control the emission of hot particles from the engine and exhaust system, but the muffler and the exhaust gases are still hot.

- Do not use the machine where exhaust, arcs, sparks or hot components can contact flammable material, explosive dust or gases.
- The operator cab, engine compartment, and engine cooling system must be inspected every day and cleaned if necessary to prevent fire hazard and overheating.
- Check all electrical wiring and connections for damage. Keep the battery terminals clean and tight. Repair or replace any damaged part.
- Check fuel and hydraulic tubes, hoses and fittings for damage and leakage. Never use open flame or bare skin to check for leaks. Tighten or replace any parts that show leakage. Always clean fluid spills. Do not use gasoline or diesel fuel for cleaning parts. Use commercial nonflammable solvents.
- Do not use ether or starting fluids on any engine which has glow plugs. These starting aids can cause explosion and injure you or bystanders.
- Always clean the machine, disconnect the battery, and disconnect the wiring from the controllers before welding. Cover rubber hoses, battery and all other flammable parts. Keep a fire extinguisher near the machine when welding. Have good ventilation when grinding or welding painted parts. Wear a dust mask when grinding painted parts. Toxic dust or gas can be produced.
- Stop the engine and let it cool before adding fuel. NO SMOKING!

- Use the procedure in the Operation & Maintenance Manual for connecting the battery and for jump starting.
- Use the procedure in the Operation & Maintenance Manual for cleaning the spark arrestor muffler (if equipped).

Figure 1



- Know where fire extinguishers and first aid kits are located and how to use them. Fire extinguishers are available from your Bobcat dealer [Figure 1].



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SERIAL NUMBER LOCATION

Always use the serial number of the loader when requesting service information or when ordering parts. Early or later models (identification made by serial number) may use different parts, or it may be necessary to use a different procedure in doing a specific service operation.

Loader Serial Number

Figure 2



The loader serial number plate is located on the outside of the loader frame **[Figure 2]**.

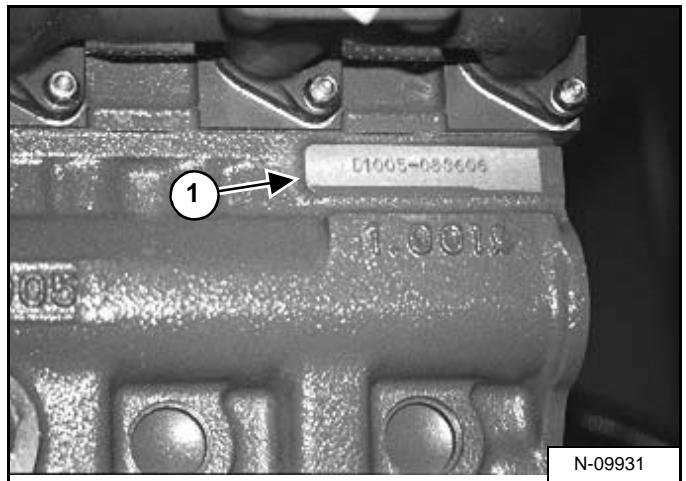
Explanation of loader Serial Number:

XXXX	XXXXXX
Model/ Engine Version	Production Sequence (Series)

1. The four digit Model/Engine Combination Module number identifies the model number and engine combination.
2. The five digit Production Sequence Number identifies the order which the loader is produced.

Engine Serial Number

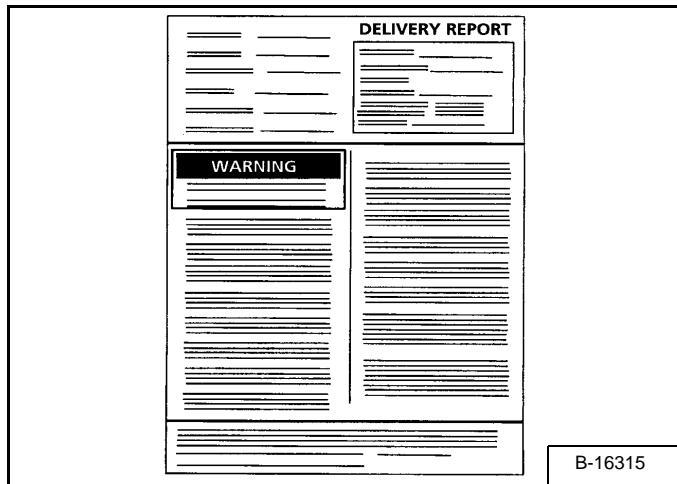
Figure 3



The engine serial number (Item 1) **[Figure 3]** is in the location shown.

DELIVERY REPORT

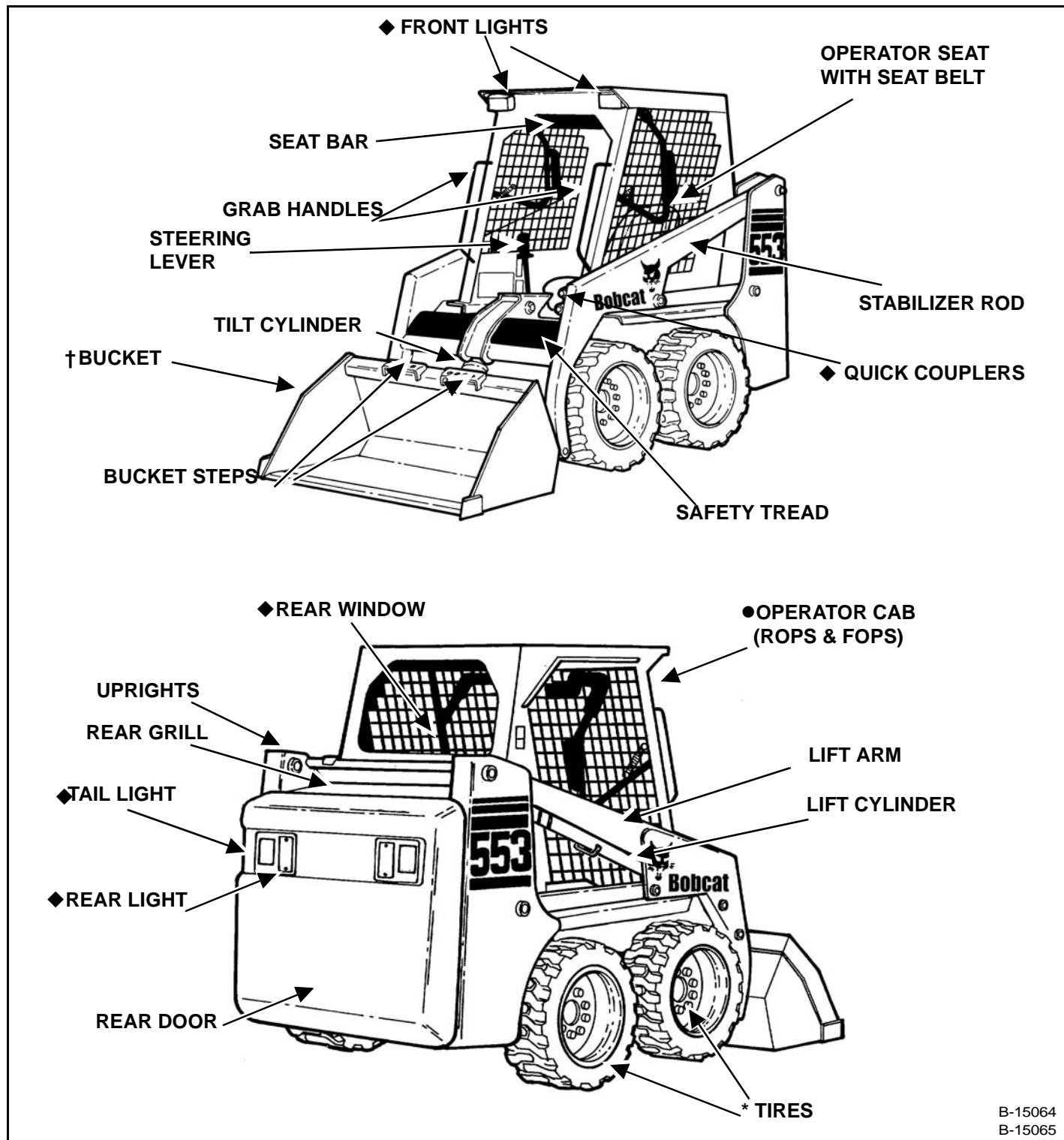
Figure 4



The image shows a 'DELIVERY REPORT' form. At the top left, there is a section with several horizontal lines for signatures or initials. To its right is a box labeled 'DELIVERY REPORT' containing more horizontal lines. Below these sections is a box labeled 'WARNING' containing several horizontal lines. To the right of the 'WARNING' box is a large area with many horizontal lines for detailed reporting. At the bottom right of the form is a small box containing the code 'B-16315'.

The Delivery Report must be filled out by the dealer and signed by the owner or operator when the Bobcat loader is delivered. An explanation of the form must be given to the owner. Make sure it is filled out completely [Figure 4].

BOBCAT LOADER IDENTIFICATION



◆ OPTIONAL OR FIELD ACCESSORY (Not Standard Equipment)

* TIRES - The Bobcat loader is factory equipped with heavy duty flotation tires. See Specifications Section and your Bobcat dealer for available tires.

† BUCKET - Several different buckets and other attachments are available for the Bobcat loader.

● ROPS, FOPS - Roll Over Protective Structure, per SAE J1040 and ISO 3471, and Falling Object Protective Structure per SAE J1043 and ISO 3449, Level I. Level II is available. The Bobcat loader is base-equipped with a standard operator cab as shown. Extra insulated cab is available as an option (Reduced noise level).

B-15064
B-15065



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AIR CLEANER SERVICE	10-80-1
Replacing Filter Element	10-80-1
AUXILIARY CONTROL LOCKBOLT	10-140-1
Removal	10-140-1
BOB-TACH	10-150-1
Inspection And Maintenance	10-150-1
ENGINE COOLING SYSTEM	10-90-1
Checking The Coolant Level	10-90-2
Cleaning The Cooling System	10-90-1
Replacing The Coolant	10-90-2
ENGINE LUBRICATION SYSTEM	10-110-1
Checking Engine Oil	10-110-1
Oil Chart	10-110-1
Replacing Oil And Filter	10-110-1
FINAL DRIVE TRANSMISSION (CHAINCASE)	10-130-1
Checking And Adding Oil	10-130-1
FUEL SYSTEM	10-100-1
Filling The Fuel Tank	10-100-1
Fuel Filter	10-100-2
Fuel Specifications	10-100-1
Removing Air From The Fuel System	10-100-3
HYDRAULIC/HYDROSTATIC SYSTEM	10-120-1
Checking And Adding Fluid	10-120-1
Description	10-120-1
Replacing Hydraulic Fluid	10-120-2
Replacing The Hydraulic/Hydrostatic Filter	10-120-2
LIFT ARM SUPPORT DEVICE	10-20-1
Installing Lift Arm Support Device	10-20-1
Removing Lift Arm Support Device	10-20-2
LIFTING AND BLOCKING THE LOADER	10-10-1
Procedure	10-10-1
LUBRICATION OF THE BOBCAT LOADER	10-160-1
Procedure	10-160-1

Continued On Next Page

SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE (CONT'D)

OPERATOR CAB	10-30-1
Description	10-30-1
Emergency Exit	10-30-2
Lowering The Operator Cab	10-30-2
Raising The Operator Cab	10-30-1
PIVOT PINS	10-190-1
Procedure	10-190-1
REMOTE START.....	10-60-1
Procedure	10-60-1
RUBBER COUPLER LUBRICATION	10-210-1
Procedure	10-210-1
SEAT BAR RESTRAINT SYSTEM	10-200-1
Description.....	10-200-1
Seat Bar Inspection	10-200-1
Seat Bar Maintenance	10-200-1
SERVICE SCHEDULE	10-70-1
Chart	10-70-1
SPARK ARRESTOR MUFFLER	10-180-1
Cleaning Procedure	10-180-1
TIRE MAINTENANCE.....	10-170-1
Mounting	10-170-1
Rotating	10-170-1
Wheel Nuts	10-170-1
TOWING THE LOADER	10-50-1
Procedure	10-50-1
TRANSPORTING THE BOBCAT LOADER	10-40-1
Procedure	10-40-1
Stopping The Bobcat Loader	10-40-1

LIFTING AND BLOCKING THE LOADER

Figure 10-10-1

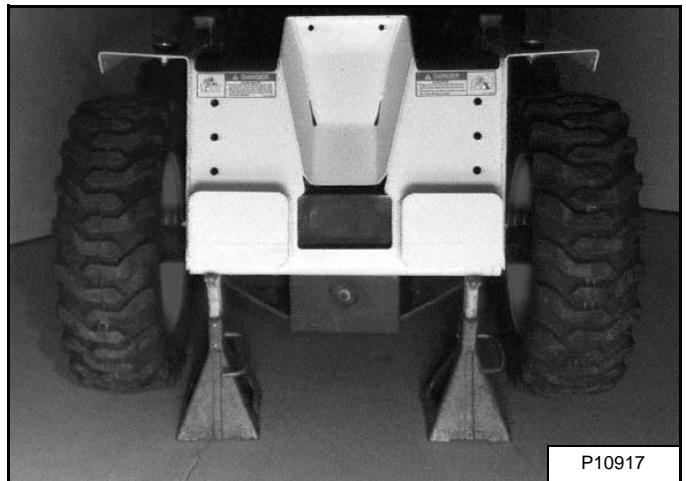


Figure 10-10-2



Lift the rear of the loader and install jackstands [Figure 10-10-2].

Figure 10-10-3



! WARNING
Instructions are necessary before operating or servicing machine. Read and understand the Operation & Maintenance Manual, Handbook and signs (decals) on machine. Follow warnings and instructions in the manuals when making repairs, adjustments or servicing. Check for correct function after adjustments, repairs or service. Untrained operators and failure to follow instructions can cause injury or death.

W-2003-0199

Procedure

Always park the loader on a level surface.



! WARNING

Put jackstands under the front axles and rear corners of the frame before running the engine for service. Failure to use jackstands can allow the machine to fall or move and cause injury or death.

W-2017-0286

Lift the front of the loader and put jackstands under the loader frame [Figure 10-10-3].

NOTE: Make sure the jackstands do not touch the tires.



Bobcat®

LIFT ARM SUPPORT DEVICE

Installing Lift Arm Support Device



WARNING

Never work on a machine with the lift arms up unless the lift arms are secured by an approved lift arm support device. Failure to use an approved lift arm support device can allow the lift arms or attachment to fall and cause injury or death.

W-2059-0598



WARNING

Service lift arm support device if damaged or if parts are missing. Using a damaged lift arm support or with missing parts can cause lift arms to drop causing injury or death.

W-2271-1197



DANGER

AVOID DEATH

- Disconnecting or loosening any hydraulic tubeline, hose, fitting, component or a part failure can cause lift arms to drop.
- Keep out of this area when lift arms are raised unless supported by an approved lift arm support. Replace if damaged.

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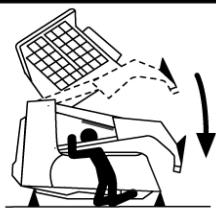
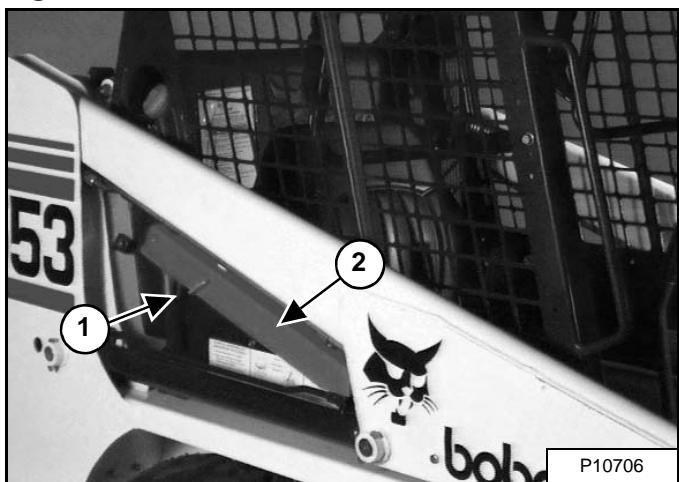


Figure 10-20-1



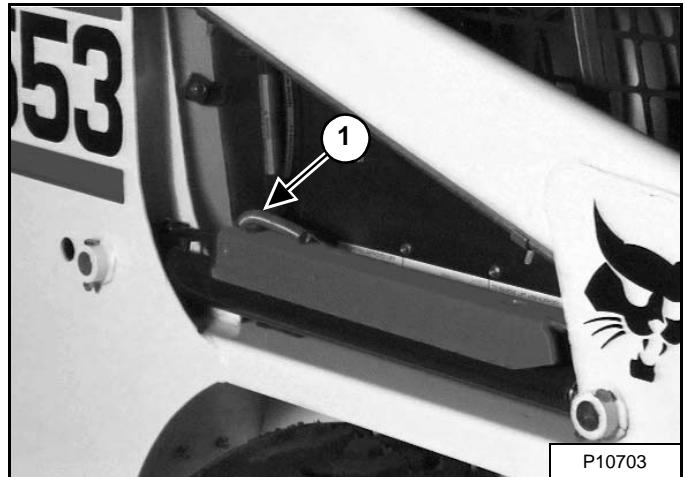
Maintenance and service work can be done with the lift arms lowered. If the lift arms are raised for service, use the following procedure:

Put jackstands under the rear corners of the loader frame.

Remove any attachment before raising the lift arms.

Disconnect the spring from the approved lift arm support device retaining pin (Item 1) [Figure 10-20-1]. Hold onto the lift arm support device (Item 2) [Figure 10-20-1] and remove the retaining pin.

Figure 10-20-2



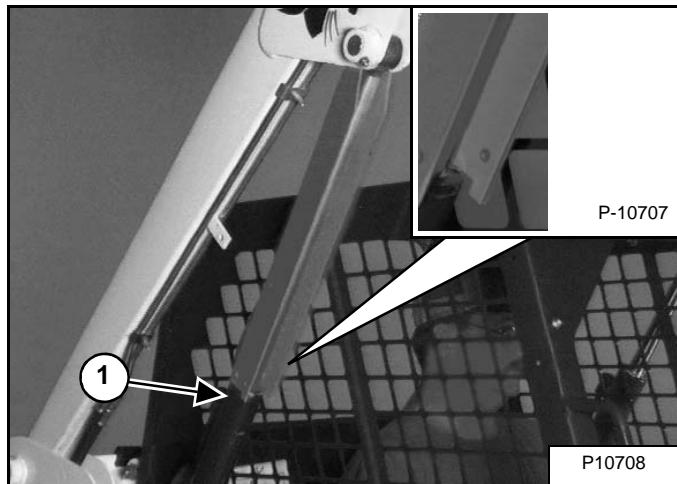
Lower the lift arm support device on top of the lift cylinder. Hook the free end of the spring (Item 1) [Figure 10-20-2] to the lift arm support device so there will be no interference with the support device engagement.

With the operator in the seat, seat belt fastened and seat bar lowered, start the engine. Loaders without seat sensors Press the green *PRESS TO OPERATE* Button.

LIFT ARM SUPPORT DEVICE (CONT'D)

Installing Lift Arm Support Device (Cont'd)

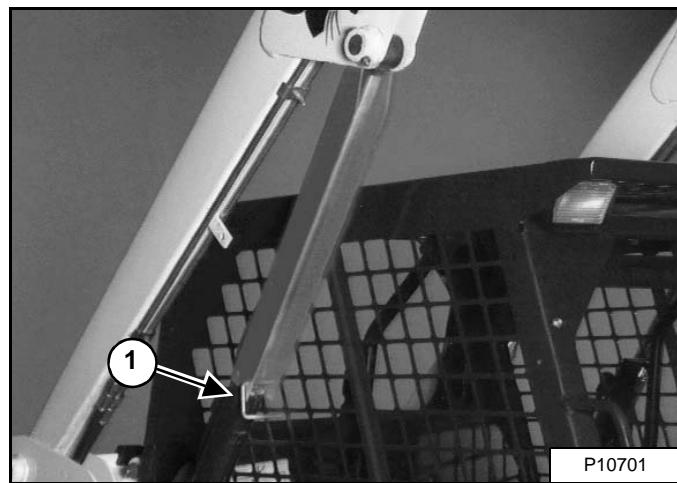
Figure 10-20-3



Raise the lift arms, until the lift arm support device (Item 1) [Figure 10-20-3] drops onto the lift cylinder rod.

Lower the lift arms slowly until the support device is held between the lift arm and the lift cylinder. Stop the engine. Raise the seat bar and move foot pedals (or hand controls) until both lock.

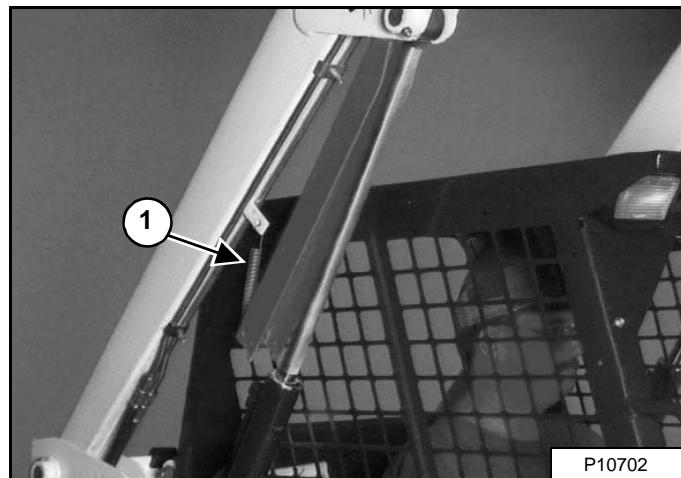
Figure 10-20-4



Install pin (Item 1) [Figure 10-20-4] into the rear of the lift arm support device below the cylinder rod.

Removing Lift Arm Support Device

Figure 10-20-5



Remove the pin from the lift arm support device.

Connect the spring (Item 1) [Figure 10-20-5] from the lift arm support device to the bracket below the lift arms.

With the operator in the seat, seat belt fastened and seat bar lowered, start the engine.

Loaders without seat sensors press the green *PRESS TO OPERATE* Button.

Raise the lift arms a small amount and the spring will lift the support device off the lift cylinder rod.

Lower the lift arms and stop the engine.

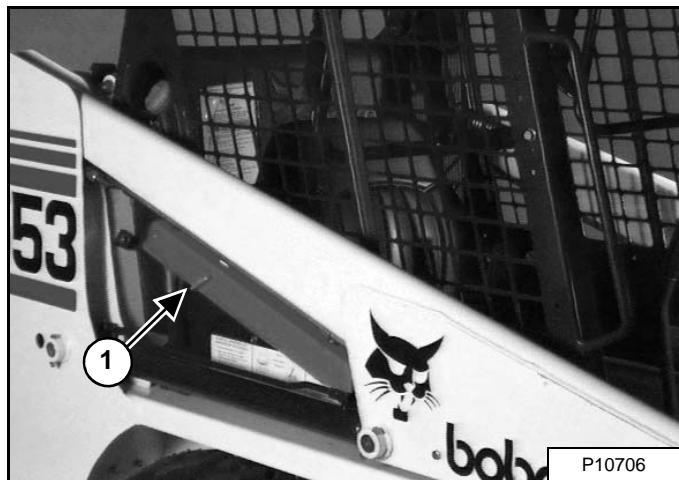
Raise the seat bar and move pedals until both lock.

Disconnect the spring from the bracket.

LIFT ARM SUPPORT DEVICE (CONT'D)

Removing Lift Arm Support Device (Cont'd)

Figure 10-20-6



Raise the support device into storage position and insert pin (Item 1) [Figure 10-20-6] through lift arm support device and bracket.

Connect spring to pin.



Bobcat®

OPERATOR CAB

Description

The Bobcat loader has an operator cab (ROPS and FOPS) as standard equipment to protect the operator from rollover and falling objects. Check with your dealer if the operator cab has been damaged. The seat belt must be worn for roll over protection.

ROPS/FOPS - Roll Over Protective Structure per SAE J1040 and ISO 3471, and Falling Object Protective Structure per SAE J1043 and ISO 3449, Level I. Level II is available.

Level I - Protection from falling bricks, small concrete blocks, and hand tools encountered in operations such as highway maintenance, landscaping, and other construction site services.

Level II - Protection from falling trees, rocks; for machines involved in site clearing, overhead demolition or forestry.



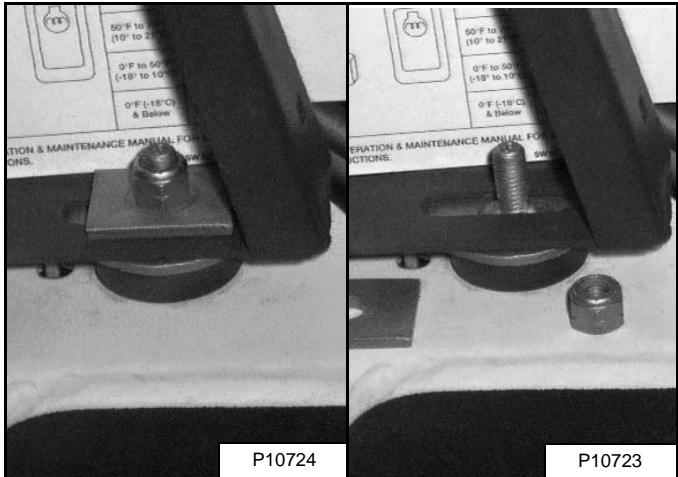
WARNING

Never modify operator cab by welding, grinding, drilling holes or adding attachments unless instructed to do so by Bobcat. Changes to the cab can cause loss of operator protection from rollover and falling objects, and result in injury or death.

W-2069-1299

Raising The Operator Cab

Figure 10-30-1



Stop the loader on a level surface. Lower the lift arms. Stop the engine. If the lift arms must be up while raising the operator cab, install the lift arm support device. (See Installing Lift Arm Support Device on Page 10-20-1.)

Put jackstands under the rear corners of loader (Inset) [Figure 10-30-2].

Loosen the nut (both sides) at the corner of the operator cab [Figure 10-30-1].

Remove the nut and plate (both sides) [Figure 10-30-1].



WARNING

Before the cab or the lift arms are raised for service, jackstands must be put under the rear corners of the frame. Failure to use jackstands can allow the machine to tip backward causing injury or death.

W-2014-0895

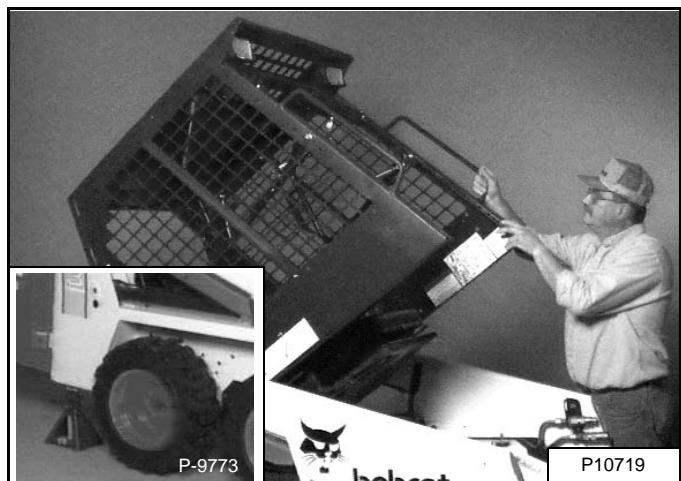


WARNING

Both sets of fasteners at the front of the operator cab (ROPS) must be assembled as shown in this manual. Failure to secure ROPS correctly can cause injury or death.

W-2005-1189

Figure 10-30-2



Lift on the grab handle and bottom of the operator cab slowly until the cab latching mechanism engages and the cab is all the way up [Figure 10-30-2].

OPERATOR CAB (CONT'D)

Lowering The Operator Cab

Figure 10-30-3



Pull down on the bottom of the operator cab until it stops at the latching mechanism. Release the latching mechanism **[Figure 10-30-3]** and pull the cab all the way down.

Install the plate and nut (both sides) **[Figure 10-30-1]**.

Tighten the nuts **[Figure 10-30-1]** to 40-50 ft.-lbs. (54-68 Nm) torque.

Emergency Exit

Figure 10-30-4



The front opening on the operator cab and rear window provide exits.

Rear Window (If Equipped)

Pull on the tag on the top of the rear window to remove the rubber cord **[Figure 10-30-4]**.

Push the rear window out of the rear of the operator cab.

Figure 10-30-5



Exit through the rear of the operator cab **[Figure 10-30-5]**.

OPERATOR CAB (CONT'D)

Emergency Exit (Cont'd)

Figure 10-30-6



Front Door (If Equipped)

NOTE: When an Operator Cab Enclosure Kit is installed, the window of the front door can be used as an emergency exit. [Figure 10-30-6].

Pull the plastic loop at the top of the window in the front door to remove the rubber cord [Figure 10-30-6].

Figure 10-30-7



Push the window out with your foot [Figure 10-30-7] at any corner of the window.

Exit through the front door.

Product: Bobcat 553 Skid Steer Loader Service Repair Workshop Manual 520311001-520411001

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