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Sample General Safe Work Practice for Hydraulic Safety

Follow these recommendations when using equipment with hydraulic systems:

- Before leaving the machine, lower the hydraulic work unit to the ground and relieve hydraulic pressure by moving the control valve back and forth several times.
- Park the machine in an area where children are unlikely to come into contact with it.
- To keep the machine in place during transportation, lock the cylinder stops.
- Use cylinder stops, locks, or blocks for raised equipment or components when servicing hydraulic components or performing maintenance.
- To reduce the risk of escaping oil, make sure all the line connections within the system are tight.
- Use a nonvolatile cleaning solution when washing parts.
- Keep hydraulics properly adjusted for better control of the machine.

Please note: This document is for information purposes only as a guide. The safe job procedures (SJP) and safe work practices (SWP) created for your workplace should reflect your organizations processes, equipment and hazards as identified by a hazard analysis. Construction Safety Nova Scotia does not assume responsibility for the use of information in this document. If assistance is needed to complete a SWP and SJP for your organization please contact CSNS member services at constructionsafetyns.ca or 1.800.971.3888.