



MCW Company Newsletter

Strengthening the lines of communication

Volume 2, Issue 2

Fred Mayo Named Employee of the Month For March

Fred Mayo, professional feller buncher operator at Maine Custom Woodlands, has been named the employee of the month for March.

Fred, who has been running the harvester for MCW for the last three years, has been “sharpening” his cutting skills for a total of nine years. Fred enjoys spending his day in the woods, and that’s why he loves his job. “I like being by myself, while working a job that’s more challenging than most jobs.” said Fred, “ I like trying to outdo myself each day.”

According to owner Thomas Cushman, Fred took *initiative* to really step up to the

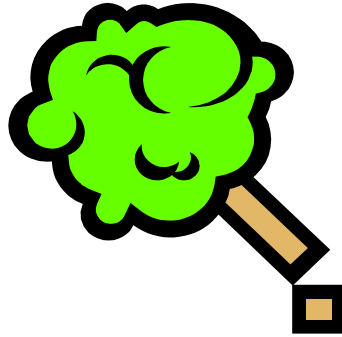


plate with regards to pre-harvest planning, designing the trails and working on the boundary lines. “I have had quite a full plate these last couple of months, and I was able count on Fred to be *dependable* in the woods”

It all starts with Fred, he selects and cuts the trees that will eventually make

their way to the mill. In a job where there isn’t much room for error, Fred has still been able to exhibit *flexibility*.

He really enjoys being part of the MCW crew. “They are a good bunch of guys to work with,” said Fred, “we have a team effort, if you don’t have a team that works together, it just makes everyone’s job much harder.”

In his spare time, Fred enjoys fishing. He serves as Lieutenant on the Anson Fire Department where he lives with his family.



Birthdays celebrated in March and April!

<i>Randy Brown</i>	3-22
<i>Joe Cushman</i>	4-9
<i>Tom Cushman</i>	4-10
<i>Toby Whitman</i>	4-28



Caution! Tourist Crossing

During the last 3 year period, Maine has had 70 traffic fatalities for the months of July and August, compared 46 in other months. The following are reminders to help keep our drivers safe in the summer months. Driving for a living

is not only a fulltime job, but a fulltime task. It can be easy to take your eyes or your mind from what is happening on the roadway.

- Expect Traffic delays
- Drive with caution

- Stay alert
- Watch summer tourists on bikes or walking
- Be ready to safely react to problems on the road or the actions of other drivers

History Facts

According to Patten’s Lumberman’s Museum, in the early 1800’s Bangor Maine was the world’s biggest shipping port for lumber. Between 1832 and 1888 over 8.7 trillion board feet were moved out of the area.



On the subject of cost-saving opportunities, most hydraulic equipment users don't have to look to hard to find at least one.

According to the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), more than 700 million gallons of petroleum products enter the environment each year-around half of which is through irresponsible and illegal disposal. But industry experts estimate that when it comes to hydraulic oil, between 70 and 80 percent of that lost to the environment is through leaks, spills, line breakage, and fitting failure.

One of our members, who is a maintenance planner for a large coal mine, recently told me his mine purchased 447,000 liters of hydraulic oil last year. It's hard to believe planned oil changes accounted for much more than a third of this volume. So where is all the rest going? I bet the coal from this mine

burns better than most. And it's safe to assume that hydraulic leaks are not the least of their problems.

With this in mind here is a question for you: Do you know how much hydraulic oil each of your machines consume each year? The only way you can know this for sure, particularly if you have more than one machine under your supervision, is if you measure and record all top-offs.

In my experience, most hydraulic equipment users don't do this. But when clients have done so at my urging, they are often shocked at how much oil a particular machine is actually losing over a year. Yeah, I know, it's one more thing to do. But it's almost impossible to control anything you don't measure. And as the late management guru Peter Drucker once said: "What gets measured gets managed." Of course, it's not just the cost of make-up fluid you need to

consider. There's the environmental cost which like carbon emissions, is not factored into-in this case-the price of a gallon of hydraulic oil. Stay tuned for that one.

Then there's the cost associated with cleanup, proper disposals and the potential safety risks posed by a leaky machine. Plus, where oil can get out, contamination can get in. And as you are reminded each time you buy a filter element, it costs money to remove contaminants. And even more if you don't.

The downtime required to fix leaks can be an issue. But this often can be an excuse for just laziness. And these days, there are many innovative solutions available to eliminate problem leaks.

Maybe now is a good time to reassess those leaks that "aren't worth fixing".

About the Author: Brendan Casey has more than twenty years experience in maintenance, repair and overhaul of mobile and industrial hydraulic equipment. For more information on reducing the operating cost and increasing the uptime of your hydraulic equipment, visit his website at www.insidersecretstohydraulics.com

Safety Counts

Experienced Operator Loses Leg in a Split Second

On a beautiful fall morning, a feller-buncher operator was disengaging and grounding his machine's sawhead to check on a pinhole leak in one of the hoses.

This operator had been employed in logging for 38 years, including 15 years of operating the feller buncher. He never had an accident and was wearing a hard hat and steel toed boots. He was

considered fully trained for his job.

The operator grounded his sawhead in a very shallow road ditch and dismounted the machine. Thinking that there had been enough time for the sawhead disk to stop turning, he approached the front of the machine with his attention of the leaking hose.

In a split second before reaching the sawhead, the operator noticed the disk



was still turning. It was too late and the sawtooth caught his right pant leg and steel-toed boot, pulling his leg into the machine.

In a split second, his life changed forever. Based on his medical history and age, the leg had to be amputated.

As an experienced operator he was more apt to be complacent, resulting in these devastating turn of events.

First Impressions

The garage has taken on a brand new look. Joe and Kenny have been working on the landscape around the garage and have really done a fantastic job.

First impressions are important, so now when people drive up the driveway, not only is it smooth ride, it winds along some beautifully landscaped terrain.

Kenny has been working hard moving the earth and Joe has been working

equally as hard to move and dump both the loam and the stumps. The boulders are placed so they compliment the landscape.

On the days that Randy helped, Joe has quickly jumped into the bulldozer while Randy moved back and forth in the dump truck.

The place is really looking good thanks to Joe, Kenny and Randy.

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