

# Lessons Learned

Date: 3/21/2023  
Project: 324

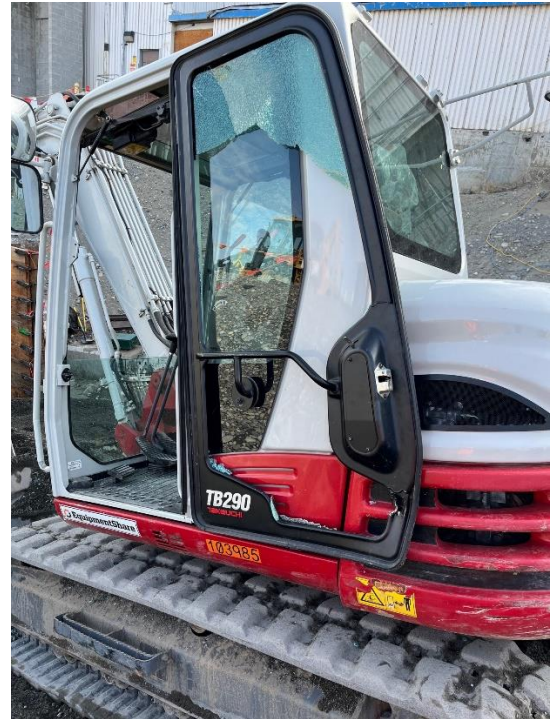
Region: National Projects Hanford  
Incident Title: Equipment Damage

## Summary

The Apollo operator was backfilling the excavation on the North side of the V Division Hanford 324 project with the excavator door in the latched open position. At 2:10 pm Wednesday March 1st the operator after his third or fourth push of gravel into the pit, turned the cab and contacted a u-bolt in the shoring causing the excavator window to shatter. The purpose of the backfilling was to enable the horizontal drilling for permeation grout delivery on the third lift or level.

In addition, the Apollo operator was on his third project of the day, he had good intentions and was using the blade trying to minimize the amount of manual labor and reducing the risk for sprains & strain injuries by pushing the material as close to the shoring as possible. His good intentions placed him in a situation that allowed for a very small or minimal margin of error.

## Picture



## What Went Right?

- Team stopped immediately
- Placed excavation in safe configuration
- Preserved accident scene
- Made notifications to Shift Operations Manager and Apollo supervision and management.
- Spotters were in position

## What Went Wrong?

- Working too close to the shoring wall
- Did not maintain situational awareness
- Inadequate controls (inadequate buffer area between the equipment and the structure)

## Lessons Learned

- Swing radius of the equipment needed to be evaluated to determine buffer areas for working near structures or other equipment.
- Assure all operational aspects of new equipment are evaluated prior to use.