

## **WARNING 18" BACKHOE COMPACTION WHEEL**

Any piece of equipment can be dangerous if not operated properly. **YOU** are responsible for the safe operation of this equipment. The operator must carefully read and follow any warnings, safety signs and instructions provided with or located on the equipment. Do not remove, defeat, deface or render inoperable any of the safety devices or warnings on this equipment. If any safety devices or warnings have been removed, defeated, defaced, or rendered inoperable, **DO NOT USE THIS EQUIPMENT!!!**

 **WARNING:** This product can expose you to chemicals including Chromium from steel products, which are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to [www.P65warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65warnings.ca.gov)

Never operate power equipment of any kind if you are tired or if you are under the influence of alcohol, drugs, medication, or any substance that could affect your ability or judgment. Be alert! If you get tired while operating this equipment, take a break. Tiredness may result in loss of control.

**DANGER:** This equipment has and creates multiple pinch points that can cause dismemberment or death. Keep hands, feet and all other body parts clear at all times.

Compaction wheels help to assure that trench compaction is done safer, faster, and more effectively than with a vibratory machine. Greater lift (material in a trench to compact) thicknesses are possible with a compaction wheel. Lifts of 12" to 24" for backhoes means doing more work in less time.

Soil Bridging is more likely to occur with vibratory machines that compact from the top down leaving unbroken clay or soil below the surface with voids around them. Compaction wheels work from the bottom up, eliminating bridging while breaking soil and filling in the voids. Vibration from vibratory machines can loosen joints in water, gas, and sewer lines as well as damaging slabs, foundations, or electronic equipment. This is not a problem with the smooth operation of a compaction wheel.

Heavy clay most often cannot be torn apart by vibration. The aggressive shearing action of a compaction wheel easily breaks up hard soil and/or clay, so that they can be intermixed into the rest of the fill soil.

The mixing and kneading action of the wheel produces a more uniform soil consistency for better compaction. The open-rim design allows maximum penetration through the lift, with standard densities achieved in 6-10 passes under normal soil conditions; the wheel processes the levels of the material as it compacts.

With a compaction wheel, you get the same compaction with a fast or slow motion. Speed of travel is critical with vibratory equipment, too little time means poor compaction, while too much is inefficient.

If the person receiving this handout will not be the user of the equipment, forward these instructions to the operator. If there is any doubt as to the operation or safety of the equipment, **DO NOT USE!!! CALL A TOOL SHED IMMEDIATELY!!! FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH**