

Common mistakes when renting a skidloader trencher attachment

- Fully read the operator's manual before operating.
- The trencher is designed to go to a maximum depth of 48". The trenching chain is intended to dig at five to ten degrees off vertical with the boom. Therefore if digging less than 48" in depth do not tilt the trencher boom to achieve a shallower depth. Instead lift the arms up (even though the side auger will not be on the ground), and keep the boom at the five to ten degrees off vertical. The digging chain is what is called a two station clearing cup, ripper tooth. When changing the angle of the boom, this will result in the material piling up under the ripper teeth and lifting the digging chain off of the surface you are attempting to trench. Resulting in the ripper teeth not being able to dig and the clearing cups not being able to clear the ripped material out of the trench.
- It is very common renters will have the idea that they can trench faster with a skidloader trencher than a walk behind trencher. This is incorrect. Both styles of trenchers are doing the same thing and are limited by the digging chain. We have seen instances over the years where an operator will try forcing the trencher to dig faster by trying to go faster in reverse with the skidloader. DO NOT DO THIS!! What will happen is the main boom connecting link will snap. Replacement cost is approximately \$1,900.00, this is not including labor, lost rentals, or shipping. This is something where the damage waiver does not cover. This is considered misuse.
- Customer is responsible for any damage to lines, fittings, and couplers!! Be mindful of pinching or overstretching hydraulic lines. Do not use high-flow! This will result in broken hoses motors and many other side effects. Remember to depressurize your system before hooking and unhooking hydraulic lines. When hooking lines up make sure to have the hoses coil to the inside, not the outside. This will help prevent hoses from being pinched and or hooked and torn. General Rental skidloader attachments have number eight flush-face couplers. This is the standard for the newer model Melroe skidloaders. Case runs a number ten flush-face coupler. We do have adapters that we rent for this. if the skidloader is running the pioneer (old style) couplers we do also have a set of adapters for this we rent out also. Because some skidloaders mount the

hydraulic couplers higher than others, there may be a problem with tilting the unit completely down, which may stretch the hoses. After hooking the hoses, go through the motions of tilting completely with someone spotting to make sure no lines are being stretched.