

APPLICATION SPOTLIGHT

Firetrace Protects Front Loader

Front loaders, as well as almost all heavy duty equipment, can pose a serious fire risk when used in a debris-filled environment.* Our Firetrace distributor, Harris Fire, has a landfill customer that has lost two front loaders (\$650K each) in the past three years due to fire. They have found that during use in this “combustible laden” environment, debris such as mulch, paper, small sticks, etc., can fall through the engine cover. After sitting on a hot engine, these items can ignite and cause other flammable fluids in the engine compartment to catch fire. In fact, the two total losses that they have had happened when the front loaders were not even in use! At the end of a shift, the operators parked the front loaders and went home. Exposed to the slow cooling engine, the debris that had fallen through the slots in the engine compartment caught fire and burned the loaders to the ground without the engine even operating!



Image 1 - Kawasaki Front Loader* with Firetrace dry chemical system

Firetrace provided the perfect fire protection solution for these front loaders. With our Firetrace Detection Tubing run throughout the engine compartment (carefully placed to avoid contact with the hot manifold), the entire engine compartment is protected - (see Images 2 & 3). Should a fire occur, our Indirect Low Pressure (ILP) system would send 20 lbs. of dry chemical throughout the engine compartment to suppress the debris-caused fire. A Manual Release and an Audible Alarm were installed in the cab as well (see Image 4). Now, should there be a fire, during regular hours or after a shift, the Firetrace ILP system will automatically detect and suppress it! Note: An additional bracket was mounted upside down to protect the valve assembly (see Image 1).



Images 2 & 3 - Firetrace Detection Tubing mounted in the engine compartment



Image 4 - Manual Release and Audible Alarm mounted in the cab

FIRETRACE[®]
AUTOMATIC FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS