

From: [Juju Manandhar](#)
To: [Lloyd Troy](#); [Frigo Ryan](#)
Cc: [Sanzo Dana](#)
Subject: RE: mini excavator inquiry
Date: Thursday, April 21, 2022 11:55:45 AM

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Troy,

Thank you for your email. Caterpillar Mini Excavator with serial number GG802227 was manufactured by Caterpillar in December 2019. I reviewed the Ballast Tools and Equipment (BTE) manual and the three pictures that you provided. It shows that

- modifications were made to the Caterpillar factory shipped machine configuration for use on rail road tracks by BTE
- work tool attachments on the machine were not the ones offered by Caterpillar

I can help answer questions related to the Caterpillar offered machinery; however, questions related to the integration / modifications for use on rail tracks should be directed to BTE.

Thank you and regards,

Juju Manandhar
Product Compliance and Support
[REDACTED]

Caterpillar: Confidential Green

From: Lloyd Troy [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 11:24 AM
To: Frigo Ryan [REDACTED] >; Juju Manandhar [REDACTED] >
Cc: Sanzo Dana [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: mini excavator inquiry

CAUTION: EXTERNAL EMAIL

This is a message from [REDACTED].
Use caution when opening unexpected emails and do not click on links or attachments from unknown senders.
For more resources, visit security.cat.com/phishing.

Please let me know what questions you may have. It will help tremendously if you can provide:

- the Product Identification Number (PIN) or commonly known as a serial number. This will assist us on the machine configuration as shipped from the factory.
 - **BTE-308-WT**

- BTE Hi-Rail S/N 141971
- CAT S/N GG802227
- location of the machine
 - Houston, Texas (operator fatality occurred in Castroville, Texas)
- pictures of the product (if any)
 - See attachments

Machine was purchased from CAT by WT Byler (railroad contractor). WT Byler (railroad contractor) worked with a railroad equipment company (Ballast Tools and Equipment) to assist with the purchase of this machine, and to equip it to travel and perform work on railroad tracks. The equipment was purchased as is and came equipped with the rubber tracks and digging bucket. BTE, once the equipment was delivered from CAT, retrofitted the machine with hy-rail wheels (railroad wheel attachments) to it can travel and perform work on railroad tracks. BTE also retrofitted this machine so that various railroad work heads (cross tie carrying head, tamping head, shears; ect...) can be inter-changes at the end of the standard-length boom. The CAT sales representative was [REDACTED].

At the time of the accident, the operator was using the work head in IMG_9637.JPG (see attachment) to move three- 20' long by 3' feet wide galvanized steel walkway grates, weighing a total of 2,200 pounds. The operator was carrying the load out-in-front of the equipment and was traveling along railroad tracks when the load somehow shifted and came through the operator cab causing fatal injuries.

BTE supplied operator training on the equipment, including training on the railroad work heads and lifting of materials.

Any questions, please contact me via email at [REDACTED], or via cell at [REDACTED]. Your help in this matter is much appreciated...Thanks

Troy A. Lloyd; WSO-CSSD/TSSP
National Transportation Safety Board
Investigator-in-Charge

From: Frigo Ryan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 3:15 PM
To: Juju Manandhar <[REDACTED]>; Lloyd Troy <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: mini excavator inquiry

Juju,

I am copying Troy Lloyd on this email. He is the Investigator in Charge.

Thank you,

Ryan Frigo

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From: Juju Manandhar <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 12:35:50 PM
To: Frigo Ryan <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: mini excavator inquiry

[CAUTION] This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Ryan,

I have been forwarded your request containing the following message.

-----copy start-----

We are investigating a railroad employee fatality where the employee was using a mini excavator that had been modified for railroad use. I can fill you more in on the detail on what we are looking for, what is a good number to contact you at ?

-----copy end-----

Please let me know what questions you may have. It will help tremendously if you can provide:

- the Product Identification Number (PIN) or commonly known as a serial number. This will assist us on the machine configuration as shipped from the factory.
- location of the machine
- pictures of the product (if any)

Please feel free to contact me via email or phone.

Regards,

Juju Manandhar
Product Safety and Compliance
[REDACTED]

Caterpillar: Confidential Green

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