

**WORKSAFE SERVICES DIVISION
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
LEGISLATIVE INTERPRETATIONS**



Topic	Powered mobile equipment - Manual back-up alarms	Issued by: V.P., WorkSafe Services
Statute	<i>Regulation 91-191</i>	Date Issued: October 8, 1997
Section	224f)	Date Revised: January 27, 2003

224 An employer shall ensure that powered mobile equipment

f) is equipped with an audible back-up alarm that operates automatically when the equipment is in reverse and that is clearly audible above the background noise,

Question

Is a “manual” back-up alarm satisfactory?

Response

No. Such a device does not meet with the requirements of either paragraph 224(f), 213.11(f), 216(1)(g) or 230.21(1)(f) because the alarm does not operate automatically when the switch is in “off” position. The intention is that the back-up warning should go into operation automatically when a vehicle backs up so as to minimize human error.