**TIP OF THE WEEK**

**MODEL ......................... All Wheel Loader Models**

**FEATURE ...... Understanding the “Big Five” Wheel Loader Specs**

WITH ALL THE SPECS AVAILABLE IN SPEC SHEETS WHERE DO YOU START?

REMEMBER TO USE THE “BIG FIVE”

**THESE PROVIDE A GENERAL, HIGH-LEVEL VIEW OF HOW A MACHINE IS EXPECTED TO OPERATE ON PAPER.**

- **Bucket Size** – Select the most comparable bucket model for reference while considering material density, work cycle demands and pass matching.
- **Horsepower** – Make sure to compare NET HP. (Usable horsepower to do work)
- **Machine Weight** – Major factor in stability of the machine as long as it is in the correct place.
- **Full Turn Static Tip Load** – Important contributor to stability and “feel” of machine. *Per ISO 14397-1 maximum payload must not exceed 50% of full turn static tip load. (Industry standard)*
- **Breakout Force** = Maximum upward force measured 100 mm behind front bucket edge. *(ISO 7131)* Komatsu loaders are generally leaders in breakout force.

These five specs help build a quick and comprehensive comparison of machines. Collectively they highlight advantages, disadvantages and paint an overall picture for the machines. For example, horsepower alone could make the machine appear inadequate, but comparing other factors such as tipping and breakout could tell the whole story and uncover Komatsu’s hidden value.

### Example of a comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>WA480-8</th>
<th>972M</th>
<th>Advantage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bucket (yd³)</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>Tie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP (net)</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>299</td>
<td>Tie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (lb.)</td>
<td>56,262</td>
<td>55,030</td>
<td>+2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Turn Tipping (lb.)</td>
<td>41,028</td>
<td>38,322</td>
<td>+6.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakout (lb. ft.)</td>
<td>46,297</td>
<td>45,482</td>
<td>+1.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For additional information, please consult the Product Bulletin, Operator’s Manual or Shop Manual. Photos may include optional equipment.

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