



HOT HOT HOT

KAWASAKI HOT SLAG LOADERS ROLL ON

Although wheel loaders can be found in a myriad of tough applications, hot slag is arguably the most different, dangerous, and demanding one of them all. Extreme heat. Toxic fumes. Invasive dust. It's enough to make many operators as well as manufacturers wilt from the challenge.

Back in 2000, Kawasaki set a company goal to pursue and develop special application packages, including hot slag. Developed with input from the National Slag Association and a number of potential end users, Kawasaki's Hot Slag packages rolled out two years later. Orders soon followed. Today, over 150 Kawasaki Hot Slag units are in use in North America, while in Japan, 106 of them have been delivered during the last three years alone. And wherever they're hard at work, Kawasaki Hot Slag machines have logged countless numbers of hours of safe and productive performance.

IT'S ALL ABOUT PROTECTION!

Kawasaki's Hot Slag features and options boil down to two simple mandates: protect the operator and protect the machine. Getting there, of course, is far from simple. However, the new Z7s come with certain standard features that create an excellent head start:

- *An all-metal-fabrication engine compartment*
- *Steel fenders*
- *Rear steel grill*
- *Ability to handle Rockland Hot Slag buckets with Hot Slag teeth*
- *Ability to utilize Titan or General L5 Slick tires*

PROTECT THE OPERATOR

When it comes to adding extra protection to keep the operator safe in hot-slag conditions, an all-new cab-window design utilizes blast-resisting tempered glass sandwiched with

laminate film that is then set in a reinforced retaining frame. E-Coat helps block external corrosives. The design also ensures damaged glass can easily be changed out while retaining a true factory fit.

Additional safety features to protect the operator include a transmission override that



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Batteries are isolated and insulated. The wiring harnesses for the chassis, transmission, and cabin are high-heat resistant.



Belly guard provides protection for the front chassis and transmission.



Fuel and hydraulic tank guarding protects critical components. Hydraulics utilize Ecosafe® hydraulic fluid for good fire resistance.

can be used in event of controller failure — allowing emergency activation of F1 or R1. The cabin pre-filter not only pre-cleans the air before it enters the cab but also provides additional cab pressurization. One option about to make its debut: pre-prepping the cabin for fire suppression. Kawasaki is working with Ansul to predetermine tank and nozzle locations as well as factory brackets for tanks and actuation.

PROTECT THE MACHINE

When it comes to safeguarding the wheel loader itself, special guarding and insulation measures are available for all critical areas.

For the electrical systems, batteries are isolated and insulated. The wiring harnesses for the chassis, transmission, and cabin are high-heat resistant.

The powertrain accesses a parking brake override, transmission override (F1/R1), and remote engine shutdown. Kawasaki also engineered a rear brake transmission disconnect and stainless steel axle brake lines into their Hot Slag loaders.



High-heat resistant hose package and guards in the articulation areas provide critical protection.

The hydraulics utilize Ecosafe® hydraulic fluid for good fire resistance. The fluid is also very clean, as the chemistry does not support the formation of sludge or gels. In addition, Ecosafe® has excellent lubrication qualities, is biodegradable, and has a very long fluid life due to its stable chemistry.

And when it comes to guarding and added protection, the options are quite impressive:

- **Battery box guard**
- **Front chassis and transmission belly guards**
- **Steel encased head and tail lights**
- **Fuel and hydraulic tank guards**
- **High-heat resistant hose package and guards in the left and right articulation areas**
- **Guarding on hydraulic and transmission sight gauges and transmission filter**
- **Steel roof cap with high-heat mirrors**
- **Under-cab shield**
- **Fire shield for seal-saver boots and bucket cylinder**
- **Steel cable steps**
- **Wheel hub studs (I.L.O. bolts)**
- **One option still under development — fuel filter metal housing**

Although there is at least one other manufacturer that offers a hot slag package, there's a lot they don't include that Kawasaki does: cab air pressurizer, front chassis belly guard with lift cylinder guard, steel radiator grill, metal frame mirrors, fire sleeves for hydraulic hoses and electrical harness, stainless steel brake lines, heat shield under the cab floor, and on, and on, and on.

AFTER-SALES SUPPORT

Kawasaki understands the necessity for impeccable and timely support, especially in such a hazardous application. All Kawasaki dealers are factory trained in hot slag. And should a loader need special service support, a Kawasaki district service manager will

personally go to the site and evaluate the condition.

Hot Slag loaders also have their own set of parts; dealer parts departments understand the special ordering procedure. In addition, reman components like transmissions, axles, and differentials — all rebuilt by Kawasaki in its own reman facility located in Georgia — are available.

Kawasaki has also conducted numerous International Hot Slag Customer training sessions at their facility in Kennesaw, Georgia. For example, in July, KCMA conducted a Customer Service Training Class for Tube City IMS customers throughout the world. In attendance were a total of 12 students — six from South Africa representing TCIMS and their Kawasaki dealer ELB Equipment. The other six students represented IMS from Texas, Pennsylvania, and Utah. Students went through an exhaustive training program focusing on all of the technical aspects of their 95ZV-2 Kawasaki Wheel Loaders, as well as training and technical libraries. Training topics covered included a Hot Slag Inspection, Safety Features, In-Depth Hydraulics and Electrical Wiring training, and Diagnostics with classroom and hands-on instruction. Custom Hot Slag training books were created specifically for IMS and their severe wheel-loader application. IMS Equipment Technicians and Maintenance Supervisors have declared Kawasaki an industry leader within this equipment classification.

For more information about Kawasaki Hot Slag Packages, contact your local Kawasaki dealer or go online to www.kawasakiloaders.com/HotSlag.