Incident & Learning Opportunity.
12/07/2021 - exploding airbag under the seat of the JCB 3CX Compact.

- A brand new JCB 3CX compact (first use) being driven by an experienced driver.
- Whilst raising the seat (which apparently is an airbag design that assists with suspension) the airbag exploded and the seat dropped suddenly causing the driver to jar and bruise his lower back.
- JCB have inspected the machine and a final report is expected soon.
- Investigation in progress.

See the following slides:
JCB 3CX COMPACT SEAT FAILURE

12/07/2021
13:15

• First day being operated on site.
• Seat adjusted at the start of the shift.
• Was used for 3 hours prior to failure.
• Seat dropped approximately 11 inches.
• Video of seat dropping is not that fast, but is not under weight.
• Very loud bang which was heard by others on site.
• JCB attended site 2 days later, report outstanding.
JCB 3CX COMPACT SEAT FAILURE

- Air bag has exploded under weight. The seat was adjusted 3 hours prior and operational.
- Failure happened when 3CX was stationary, with engine switched off (Which would switch off the compressor).
- Seat has a ‘Comfort’ alert which for a comfy ride needs to be green. Was likely red as operator stated he had fully inflated.
Learn

The Green/Red alert is for comfort in the operator’s manual but until JCB find out why the airbag has exploded we should tell our operators to use it in the green only to ensure the air bag is not under too much pressure.