The Problem The lack of operator involvement in the equipment maintenance program has caused the reliability of equipment to decline. Operator training and the vehicle pretrip inspection checklist will ensure that preventable accidents are avoided. Hold a mandatory four–hour equipment maintenance training class conducted by mechanics in the motor pool. This training would consist of a hands–on approach to preventive maintenance checks and services at the operator level. A tractor was operated without adequate oil in the crankcase, resulting in a \$15,000 repair bill after the engine locked. When the operator of the vehicle nearest to the fire attempted to extinguish the blaze, he discovered that the fire extinguisher had already been discharged. When the operator fails to report deficiencies to the mechanics, dangerous conse quences may result. Conclusion I believe the cost of maintaining the vehicle fleet at Apex will be reduced when potential problems are detected and corrected before they become serious. Here are a few examples: ????