



NEWS RELEASE

Date: June 20, 2008
Release Date: Immediately
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(Firefighters Rescue Man Entrapped by Falling Equipment)

Firefighters from Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVF&R) responded Friday to a report of an industrial accident on private property located in the 16800 block of Germantown Road, a rural area of Washington County. The call came in to the Washington County 9-1-1 Center at 11:57 am. When firefighters from TVF&R's Somerset Station 64 and Oak Hills Station 68 arrived at 12:04 pm, they found an adult male entrapped at the ankle by a large piece of equipment that had fallen from a flatbed trailer. The equipment, a disabled boom-style man lift, was balanced on its side and threatened to tilt further onto the leg or torso of the trapped patient. TVF&R Paramedics began treating the patient despite access limitations that placed them in danger of the precarious equipment. Meanwhile, the Incident Commander requested the TVF&R and the Hillsboro Technical Rescue Teams respond in case the initial effort to free the patient was unsuccessful.

Firefighters on scene decided to use a track hoe located on the property to assist in rescuing the patient. The track hoe operator was able to lift the machinery several inches thus freeing the patient's leg. Firefighters pulled the patient to safety prior to the arrival of the Technical Rescue Teams. A Metro West Ambulance transported the patient to Providence St. Vincent's Medical Center for treatment of nonlife-threatening injuries.