



SKILLED TRADES

POSITIONS IN THE FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY



HEAVY DUTY MECHANIC

OTHER JOB TITLES: *construction equipment mechanic, heavy equipment mechanic, heavy mobile logging equipment mechanic, heavy-duty equipment technician, tractor mechanic.*

IF YOU WANT GOOD PAY, OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN ON THE JOB, A GREAT LIFESTYLE AND THE CHANCE TO WORK IN CANADA'S GREENEST WORKFORCE, THEN THE FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY IS RIGHT FOR YOU.

Why green? The forests are a renewable natural resource and the Canadian forest products industry is known for its world-class environmental credentials, including having the most certified forests in the world, and cutting more than 70% of its greenhouse gas emissions since 1990.

The industry offers something for everyone. It's an industry with a reputation for investing in skills training and career growth, and no matter what part of the forest products industry you work in - on the mill floor as a mechanical engineer, or in the forest as a forestry technician - every job is part of the greenest industry in Canada.

Canadian forest product companies will need to hire 60,000, or more, **new workers by 2020** to meet demand and you could be one of them!

DESCRIPTION

Heavy-duty equipment mechanics repair and maintain big machines and heavy-duty equipment. Your day-to-day duties would include adjusting, repairing and replacing worn and damaged mechanical, hydraulic and electrical parts on tractors, steam shovels, trucks and other heavy equipment.

You need the skills to diagnose electrical, mechanical and hydraulic troubles. Working as a heavy-duty mechanic means taking equipment apart and reassembling equipment like engines, transmissions, and fuel and exhaust systems. Heavy-duty mechanics rely on hand and power tools and specialized equipment.

As a heavy-duty mechanic, you may specialize in specific types of machinery like tracked vehicles, fuel injection systems, power shift transmissions, hydraulics or electronics. A day in the life of a heavy-duty mechanic might include repairing a massive logging truck in time for a driver to deliver his load.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Heavy-duty equipment mechanics perform some or all of these tasks:

- checking logging equipment for proper performance and inspecting equipment
- testing repaired equipment
- using computerized equipment to scope out repairs
- adjusting equipment to maintain parts and systems
- performing routine maintenance work on equipment

THIS JOB IS RIGHT FOR YOU IF...

- you want to live an oversized life in one of Canada's beautiful forest communities
- a sense of community is important to you
- you like variety and learning new things
- you want to make a difference working in a green job
- you like to see what makes things work
- you like to solve problems
- you want to work in work clothes, not a suit
- you don't mind a little grease on your hands

#LIFE'S BETTER HERE

Dare to Compare. See how much time and money you would save by moving to a forest community. Visit thegreenestworkforce.ca/compare

\$ EARNING POTENTIAL

\$37
PER HOUR

This is the high end of the Canadian average. In some areas, heavy-duty mechanics make up to \$42 per hour.

+ BENEFITS MAY INCLUDE

- Apprenticeships
- Career growth
- Daycare
- Dental and medical plans
- Employee assistance plans
- Pensions
- Ongoing training

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

You should earn a high-school diploma before applying to become a heavy-duty mechanic. Then you will need to complete a three- to five-year apprenticeship program or a combination of work experience in the trade and some high school, college or industry courses over five years. Heavy-duty equipment technician trade certification is compulsory in Quebec and Alberta and available, but voluntary, in all other provinces and the territories. An interprovincial *Red Seal* program allows qualified electricians to practice their trade in other provinces without having to write extra exams.

Apprenticeship grants: Apprentices can receive up to \$4,000 in grants to pay tuition, travel, tools, or other expenses. If you are considering an apprenticeship, visit *Red Seal* for information on how to get started. Here is a complete list of Canadian Universities and Colleges: thegreenestworkforce.ca/education