



## MODEL 1600AG TIE DOWNS MEET SARA COOMBES

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### TUCKER SNO-CAT® ATTENDS WORLD AG EXPO

We have always kept ourselves open to new ideas. Three years ago we were approached by a family owned farm in the Willamette Valley. Their thought was to equip a model 1600 front engine with farming implements for soft ground applications. Sno-Cats® have a light foot print because of the low ground pressure required for over snow travel. We accepted the challenge and manufactured a machine for agricultural use. Today there are (4) Tuckers working in the Willamette Valley. In the last three years we have been working with the farmers and learning what modifications are required for the farming applications. We now feel like we have a machine that will perform extremely well for agricultural soft ground applications. Be sure to check out the website photos listed under our "Model 1600AG"!



# TIE DOWNS

We get a lot of questions in reference to tying down Sno-Cat® vehicles, three different categories:

**Where to attach?** We suggest tie downs be attached below the level of our springs, i.e. differentials or carriers. If the areas above the springs are used you will notice it tends to flatten the springs.

**How to attach, how many tie downs?** Federal Motor Carrier Regulation 393.130 (equipment and machinery which operate on tracks or wheels and is over 10,000 lbs.) states it *“must be restrained against movement in the lateral, forward, rearward, and vertical direction using a minimum of four tie downs.”*\* We suggest using two tie downs on the front and two on the rear in an X pattern. As long as they are also placed in a position to pull the differentials away from, or towards each other then they will accomplish the restraining requirements. *“Accessory equipment”*, i.e. blades, tillers, compactor bars *“must be completely lowered and secured to the vehicle”*. We suggest a minimum of one tie down to do this.

**What to use for tie downs?** Regulation 393.106 states *“The aggregate working load limit of tie downs used must be at least one-half times the weight of the article being tied down”* First establish the working load limit of your tie down assembly ( we use 4” nylon strap and it is 5,000 lbs.). Next multiply by the number of tie downs times the working load limit (4 x 5,000 lbs. = 20,000 lbs.). Now that total number must equal at least one-half the weight of the Sno-Cat®. In addition the tie down assemblies must be in good working order and also be adjustable for tension.

*\*Even though our Model 2000XL is less than 10,000 lbs. and only requires two tie downs, we suggest using four so everything is the same.*

# MEET SARA COOMBES



Meet Sara Coombes. Sara started with Tucker Sno-Cat® in July of 1972, her original duties included invoicing parts orders and other secretarial tasks. Her primary assignment now is accounts payable, being responsible for some 2000 vendors! Sara has seen a lot of changes in office equipment, the biggest is of course computerization. She has also had the pleasure of working with three generations of the Tucker Family ( her book will be out after retirement).

Sara is a Southern Oregon native and is married with one grown daughter, which is the light of her life. In addition to taking care of her ageing parents, Sara enjoys camping, biking, hiking, walking for exercise, yard work, and occasionally river rafting.