



John Deere Skidders Deliver Productivity Under Tough Working Conditions

Pennsylvania's rugged terrain and dense forests demand tough, easy-to-operate equipment, and John Deere's model 540G-III, 548G-III and 648H skidders deliver the power, reliability and productivity to get the job done.

540G-III and 548G-III

With their tight wheelbase (9 ft., 7 in./2920 mm), G-III-Series machines are most productive working in areas where maneuverability is a must. Both models are powered by John Deere's durable, fuel-efficient Tier 2 PowerTech™ engine, which delivers 129 hp/96 kW of gross power through a direct-drive PowerShift™ transmission.

The 540G-III features a Series 4000 bare-drum-line winch to pull loads up to 35,029 lb./156 kN). Or loggers can choose the 548G-III, which adds an 8-square-foot/0.7 m² grapple that keeps constant pressure on the tongs with two hydraulic cylinders that adjust to each load.

648H

For larger jobs, the 648H features a longer wheelbase and wide stance for unsurpassed stability: 12 ft., 1 in./3680 mm for the model featuring a Direct-Drive transmission, and 12.27 ft./3740mm for the model featuring a Torque-Converter transmission. The Tier 3 PowerTech engine delivers 172 hp/128 kW of gross power with the direct-drive transmission or 185 hp/138 kW with the lockup-torque-converter transmission.

All three models include an electronic hand throttle that puts the skidder on “cruise control.” A new Autoshift option also lets the operator focus on pulling the load, and inboard planetary axles feature self-equalizing, self-adjusting wet-disc brakes to minimize wear. And the highly efficient cooling system includes simple-to-clean swing-out coolers — all to help loggers maximize uptime, speed service and reduce operating costs.

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