

**JOHN DEERE**  
**WORLDWIDE COMMERCIAL & CONSUMER**  
**EQUIPMENT DIVISION**

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**Compact Utility Tractors**  
**1023E, 1026R**

OMLVU22338 J0

**OPERATOR'S MANUAL**



**JOHN DEERE**

**⚠ WARNING:** Diesel engine exhaust and some of its constituents are known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm.

California Proposition 65 Warning

North American Version  
Litho in U.S.A.

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Original Instruction

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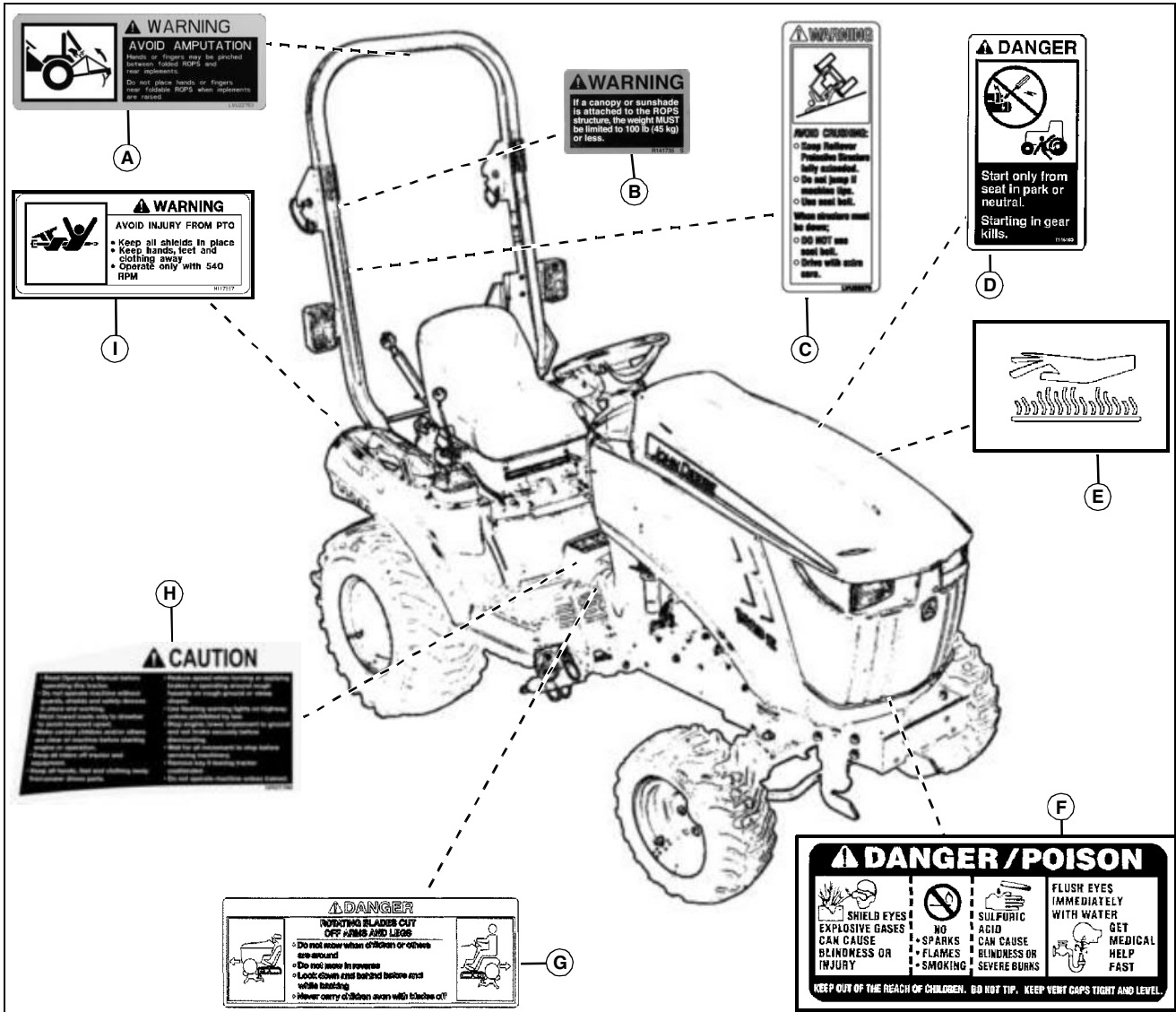
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OMLVU22338 J0 - English

# SAFETY LABELS

## Safety Label Location



MX46294

- A - WARNING LVU22753
- B - WARNING R141735
- C - WARNING LVU23279
- D - DANGER T146103
- E - CAUTION HOT SURFACE (embossed on muffler)
- F - DANGER/POISON M88249
- G - DANGER LVU14509
- H - CAUTION LVU21760
- I - WARNING M117557



## Understanding The Machine Safety Labels

The machine safety labels shown in this section are placed in important areas on your machine to draw attention to potential safety hazards.

On your machine safety labels, the words DANGER, WARNING, and CAUTION are used with this safety-alert symbol. DANGER identifies the most serious hazards.

The operator's manual also explains any potential safety hazards whenever necessary in special safety messages that are identified with the word, CAUTION, and the safety-alert symbol.

There can be additional safety information contained on parts and components sourced from suppliers that is not reproduced in this operator's manual.

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# SAFETY LABELS

## WARNING LVU22753

### AVOID AMPUTATION



LVU22753

- Hands or fingers may be pinched between folded ROPS and rear implements. Do not place hands or fingers near foldable ROPS when implements are raised.

## WARNING - LVU23279

### AVOID CRUSHING



LVU23279

- Keep Rollover Protective Structure fully extended.
- Do not jump if machine tips.
- Use seat belt.

#### When structure must be down;

- DO NOT use seat belt.
- Drive with extra care.

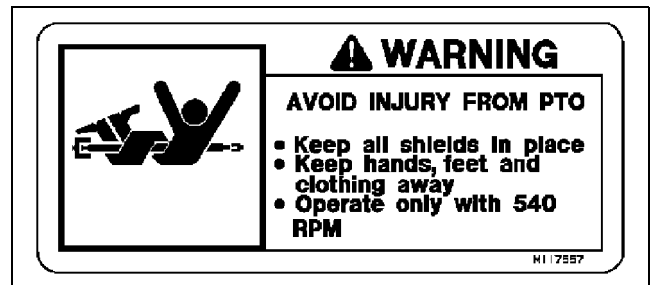
## DANGER T146103



T146103

- Start only from seat in park or neutral.
- Starting in gear kills.

## WARNING M117557



M117557

M117557

### AVOID INJURY FROM PTO.

- Keep all shields in place.
- Keep hands, feet and clothing away.
- Operate only with 540 RPM.

## WARNING ROPS R141735



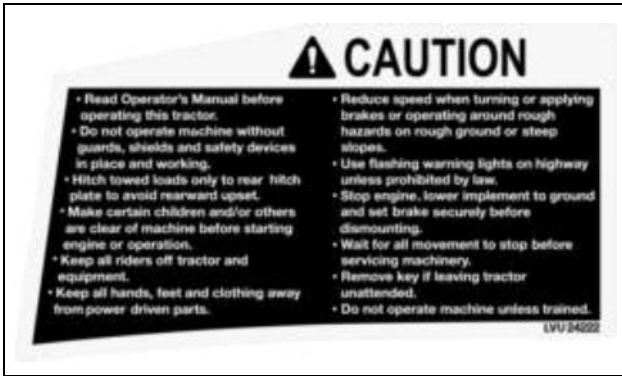
R141735

**Picture Note: Located on inside of right side of ROPS.**

If a canopy or sunshade is attached to the ROPS structure, the weight MUST be limited to 100 lb (45 kg) or less.

# SAFETY LABELS

## CAUTION - LVU24222

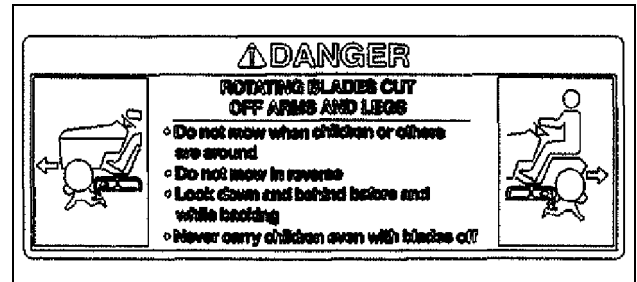


LVU24222

1. Read Operator's Manual before operating this tractor.
2. Do not operate the machine without guards, shields, and safety devices in place and working.
3. Hitch towed loads only to rear hitch plate to avoid rearward upset.
4. Make certain children and/or others are clear of machine before starting engine or operation.
5. Keep all riders off tractor and equipment.
6. Keep hands, feet and clothing away from power driven parts.
7. Reduce speed when turning or applying brakes or operating around rough hazards on rough ground or steep slopes.
8. Use flashing warning lights on highway unless prohibited by law.
9. Stop engine, lower implement to ground and set brake before dismounting.
10. Wait for all movement to stop before servicing machinery.
11. Remove key if leaving tractor unattended.
12. Do not operate machine unless trained.

## DANGER - LVU14509

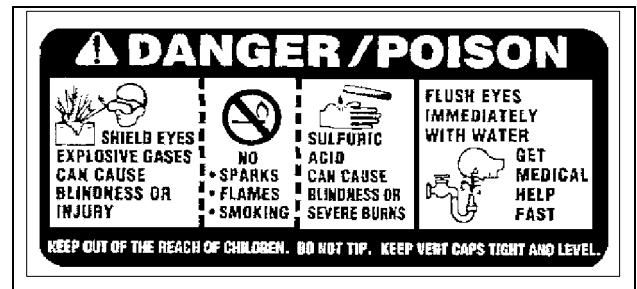
### ROTATING BLADES CUT OFF ARMS AND LEGS



LVU14509

- Do not mow when children or others are around.
- Do not mow in reverse.
- Look down and behind before and while backing.
- Never carry children even with blades off.

## DANGER / POISON



M88249

**Picture Note: Located on battery.**

SHIELD EYES: EXPLOSIVE GASES CAN CAUSE BLINDNESS OR INJURY.

NO SPARKS, FLAMES, SMOKING.

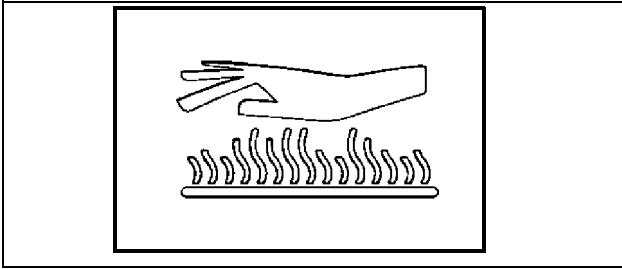
SULFURIC ACID CAN CAUSE BLINDNESS OR SEVERE BURNS.

FLUSH EYES IMMEDIATELY WITH WATER. GET MEDICAL HELP FAST.

KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN. DO NOT TIP. KEEP VENT CAPS TIGHT AND LEVEL.

# SAFETY LABELS


## CAUTION HOT SURFACE



**Picture Note:** Located on muffler.

**NOTE:** No-text warning molded into muffler.

Do not touch engine muffler, it may be hot.

 **CAUTION: Avoid injury! Statutes providing severe penalties for tampering with emissions controls may apply at the user's location.**

The emissions warranty described in the warranty section applies only to those engines marketed by John Deere that have been certified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and/or California Air Resources Board (CARB); and used in the United States in non-road mobile (self-propelled or portable/transportable<sup>1</sup>) equipment. The presence of an emissions label like the one shown signifies that the engine has been certified with the EPA and/or CARB. The EPA and CARB warranties only apply to new engines having the certification label affixed to the engine and sold as stated above in the geographic areas governed by the regulating agencies.

**NOTE:** The hp/kW rating on the engine emissions certification label specifies the gross engine hp/kW, which is flywheel power without fan. In most applications this will not be the same rating as the advertised vehicle hp/kW rating.

## CAUTION iMatch™ Quick-Hitch LVU13502

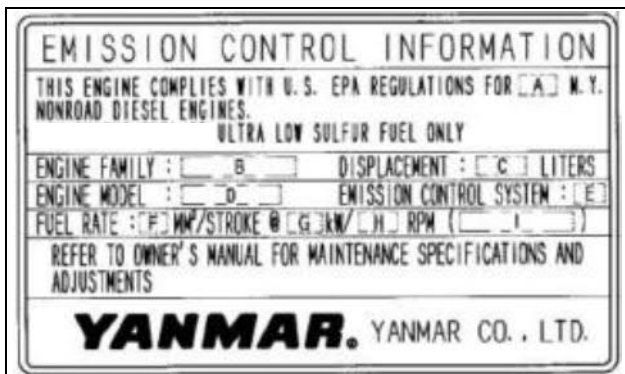


LVU13502

**Picture Note:** Optional iMatch Quick-Hitch.

BEFORE USING, SECURE TRACTOR IMPLEMENT WITH BOTH LOCKING LUGS OVER LOWER IMPLEMENT PINS

## Emission Control System Certification Label



<sup>1</sup>. Equipment moved at least once every 12 months.

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# SAFETY

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## Operator Training Required

- Read the operator's manual and other training material. If the operator or mechanic cannot read English, it is the owner's responsibility to explain this material to them. This publication is available in other languages.
- Become familiar with the safe operation of the equipment, operator controls, and safety signs.
- All operators and mechanics should be trained. The owner of the machine is responsible for training the users.
- Never let children or untrained people operate or service the equipment. Local regulations may restrict the age of the operator.
- The owner/user can prevent and is responsible for accidents or injuries occurring to themselves, other people, or property.
- Operate the machine in an open, unobstructed area under the direction of an experienced operator.

## Operating Safely

- Only allow responsible adults, who are familiar with the instructions, to operate the machine. Local regulations may restrict the age of the operator.
- A storage location is provided on the machine for the operator's manual. Keep the manual stored securely in this location when not in use and show other operators of this machine where the operator manual is located.
- Inspect machine before you operate. Be sure hardware is tight. Repair or replace damaged, badly worn, or missing parts. Be sure guards and shields are in good condition and fastened in place. Make any necessary adjustments before you operate.
- Be sure all drives are in neutral and parking brake is locked before starting engine. Only start engine from the operator's position.
- Do not change the engine governor settings or overspeed the engine. Operating the engine at excessive speed can increase the hazard of personal injury.
- Check brakes before you operate. Adjust or service brakes as necessary.
- Slow down and use extra care on hillsides. Be sure to travel in the recommended direction on hillsides. For this machine, drive up and down hillsides, not across. Turf conditions can affect the machine's stability. Use caution while operating near drop-offs.
- Stop machine if anyone enters the area. Never carry passengers and keep pets and bystanders away.
- Look behind and down before backing up to be sure of a

clear path.

- Inspect the area where the equipment is to be used and remove all objects such as rocks, toys and wire which can be thrown by the machine.
- If you hit an object or if abnormal vibration occurs, stop the machine and inspect it. Make repairs before you operate. Keep machine and attachments properly maintained and in good working order.
- Do not leave machine unattended when it is running.
- Only operate during daylight or with good artificial light.
- Evaluate the terrain to determine what accessories and attachments are needed to properly and safely perform the job.
- Use only accessories and attachments approved by the manufacturer of the machine. Keep safety labels visible when installing accessories and attachments.
- Do not operate machine if you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Check before each use that operator presence controls are functioning correctly. Test safety systems. Do not operate unless they are functioning correctly.
- Slow down and be careful of traffic when operating near or crossing roadways. Use care when approaching blind corners, shrubs, trees, or other objects that may obscure vision.
- Do not wear radio or music headphones. Safe service and operation require your full attention.
- Use care when loading or unloading the machine into or off of a trailer or truck.
- Disengage drive to attachments when transporting or not in use.
- Reduce the throttle setting during engine run-out and, if the engine is provided with a fuel shut-off valve, turn the fuel off at the conclusion of mowing.
- When machine is left unattended, stored, or parked, lower the mower deck unless a positive mechanical lock is used.

## Using a Spark Arrestor

The engine in this machine is not equipped with a spark arrestor muffler. The California Public Resources Code, section 4442.5 provides as follows:

No person shall sell, offer for sale, lease, or rent to any person any internal combustion engine subject to Section 4442 or 4443, and not subject to Section 13005 of the Health and Safety Code, unless the person provides a written notice to the purchaser or bailee, at the time of sale or at the time of entering into the lease or rental contract,



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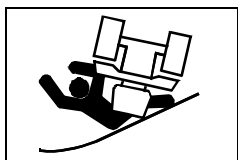
# SAFETY

stating that it is a violation of Section 4442 or 4443 to use or operate the engine on any forest-covered, brush-covered, or grass-covered land unless the engine is equipped with a spark arrestor, as defined in Section 4442, maintained in effective working order or the engine is constructed, equipped, and maintained for the prevention of fire pursuant to Section 4443. Cal. Pub. Res. Code 4442.5.

Other states or jurisdictions may have similar laws. A spark arrestor for your machine may be available from your authorized dealer. An installed spark arrestor must be maintained in good working order by the operator.

## Parking Safely

1. Stop machine on a level surface, not on a slope.
2. Disengage PTO and stop attachments.
3. Lower attachments to the ground.
4. Lock park brake.
5. Stop engine.
6. Remove key.
7. Wait for engine and all moving parts to stop before you leave the operator's station.
8. Close fuel shut off valve before servicing the fuel system, if your machine is equipped.
9. Disconnect the battery ground cable before making repairs to electrical system or doing any welding.



## Avoid Tipping

- Slopes are a major factor related to loss-of-control and tip-over accidents, which can result in severe injury or death. Operation on all slopes

requires extra caution.

- Be aware that mechanical front wheel drive (MFWD) can improve access to dangerously sloped terrain, thereby increasing the possibility of a tipover.
- Drive up and down a hill - not across.
- Watch for holes, ruts, bumps, rocks, or other hidden objects. Uneven terrain could overturn the machine. Tall grass can hide obstacles.
- Do not operate machine on wet grass. Tires may lose traction. Tires may lose traction on slopes even though the brakes are functioning properly.
- Choose a low ground speed so you will not have to stop or shift while on a slope.

- Always keep the machine in gear when going down slopes. Do not shift to neutral and coast downhill.
- Avoid starting, stopping or turning on a slope. If the tires lose traction, disengage the blades and proceed slowly, straight down the slope.
- Keep all movement on slopes slow and gradual. Do not make sudden changes in speed or direction, which could cause the machine to roll over.
- Do not operate machine near drop-offs, ditches, embankments, or bodies of water. The machine could suddenly roll over if a wheel goes over the edge or the edge caves in. Leave a safety area between the machine and any hazard.
- Danger of tipping is increased greatly with tires in narrow tread setting and driving at high speed.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for wheel weights or counterweights for added stability when operating on slopes or using front or rear mounted attachments. Remove weights when not required.



## Prevent Machine Runaway

- Do not start engine by shorting across starter terminals. Machine will start in gear if normal circuitry is bypassed.

by bypassed.

- Never start engine while standing on ground. Start engine only from operator's seat, with transmission in neutral or park.



## Use Seat Belt Properly

- Use a seat belt when you operate with a Roll-Over Protective Structure (ROPS) to minimize chance of injury from an accident, such as an

overturn.

- Never modify, disassemble or attempt to repair the seat belt.
- Replace entire seat belt if mounting hardware, buckle, belt, or retractor show signs of damage.
- Inspect seat belt and mounting hardware at least once a year. Look for signs of loose hardware or belt damage, such as cuts, fraying, extreme or unusual wear, discoloration, or abrasion. Replace only with John Deere-approved replacement parts.
- Layers of heavy clothing can interfere with proper positioning of the seat belt and can reduce the effectiveness of the seat belt.

# SAFETY

## Keep ROPS Installed Properly

- Never operate the machine without the ROPS installed.
- Make certain all parts of the ROPS are installed correctly if the ROPS structure is loosened or removed for any reason. All ROPS hardware should be tightened to the proper torque per manufacturer's recommendations.
- Any alteration of the ROPS must be approved by the manufacturer. The protection provided by the ROPS will be impaired if the ROPS is subjected to structural damage, is involved in an overturn incident, or is in any way altered by welding, bending, drilling, or cutting.
- The seat is part of the ROPS safety zone. Replace only with John Deere-approved seat.
- Never attempt to repair a damaged or altered ROPS. It must be replaced to maintain the manufacturer's certification of the structure.



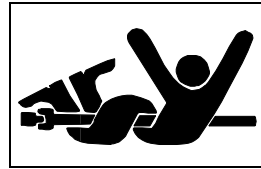
## Keep Riders Off

- Only allow the operator on the machine. Keep riders off.
- Riders on the machine or attachment may be struck by foreign objects or thrown off the machine causing serious injury.
- Riders obstruct the operator's view resulting in the machine being operated in an unsafe manner.

## Towing Loads Safely

- Stopping distance increases with speed and weight of towed load. Travel slowly and allow extra time and distance to stop.
- Total towed weight must not exceed combined weight of pulling machine, ballast and operator. Use counterweights or wheel weights as described in the attachment or pulling machine operator's manual.
- Excessive towed load can cause loss of traction and loss of control on slopes. Reduce towed weight when operating on slopes.
- Never allow children or others in or on towed equipment.
- Use only approved hitches. Tow only with a machine that has a hitch designed for towing. Do not attach towed equipment except at the approved hitch point.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for weight limits for towed equipment and towing on slopes.
- If you cannot back up a slope with a towed load, the slope is too steep to operate on with the towed load. Reduce the towed load or do not operate.

- Do not turn sharply. Use additional caution when turning or operating under adverse surface conditions. Use care when reversing.
- Do not shift to neutral and coast downhill.



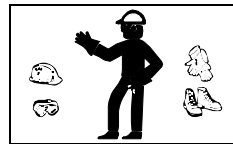
## Stay Clear of Rotating Drivelines

Entanglement in rotating driveline can cause serious injury or death.

- Wear close fitting clothing.
- Stop the engine and be sure PTO driveline is stopped before getting near it.

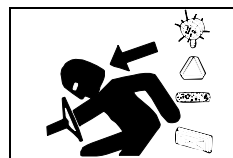
## Checking Wheel Hardware

- A serious accident could occur causing serious injury if wheel hardware is not tight.
- Check wheel hardware tightness often during the first 100 hours of operation.
- Wheel hardware must be tightened to specified torque using the proper procedure anytime it is loosened.



## Wear Appropriate Clothing

- Always wear safety goggles, or safety glasses with side shields, and a hard hat when operating the machine.
- Wear close fitting clothing and safety equipment appropriate for the job.
- While operating this machine, always wear substantial footwear and long trousers. Do not operate the equipment when barefoot or wearing open sandals.
- Wear a suitable protective device such as earplugs. Loud noise can cause impairment or loss of hearing.



## Driving Safely on Public Roads

Avoid personal injury or death resulting from a collision with another vehicle on public roads:

- Use safety lights and devices. Slow moving machines when driven on public roads are hard to see, especially at night.

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