

# SKIDDERS

640L / 648L / 748L / 848L / 948L



JOHN DEERE



INTRODUCING THE  
**L-SERIES**

*GAME  
CHANGER.*



**TO DESIGN OUR GAME-CHANGING L-SERIES SKIDDERS,** we went to the woods. We met with loggers — the ones who live it every day — and let them do the talking. **And we listened.**

Through Customer Advocate Groups (CAGs), we collected invaluable input. Our engineers then devoted 250,000 hours to designing prototypes based on these fresh ideas.

But we didn't stop there. We continued to refine these skidders until we got them exactly right, validating them in over 11,500 hours of testing in everyday, real-world conditions.

Built on 175 years of groundbreaking innovation. Backed by over a half-century of experience in the woods. And designed with proven components to withstand the toughest environments. Our new L-Series Skidders are our most reliable and productive ever — redefining your expectations of what a skidder can accomplish for your logging operation.



“Deere is totally open to any opinion. ‘How can we make it better?’ is their mantra. And they’ve really applied our suggestions to these new machines. That’s what you want in a company. It makes a huge difference.”

**Oz Thorndike, CAG member**  
Maine-ly Trees, Strong, Maine

## BUILT FOR THE LONG HAUL

# Won't back down. Or let you down.

In the forest, uptime is the name of the game. And our L-Series Skidders aren't interested in playing nice.

### Durable drivetrain

A constant engine speed ensures superb multifunction performance and dependability. It also eliminates sudden surges and engine overspeed, reducing component wear and extending engine life. The 640L, 648L, and 748L feature high-performance 6.8L diesel engines, while the 848L and 948L run powerful 9.0L engines.

### Tougher grapples

New grapple design features box-style tongs for maximum strength and harder wear surfaces for long life. Components are easier to access, simplifying service.

### Outstanding axle durability

All L-Series models feature more robust heavy-duty axles. New pressurized continuous-lube system and independent axle filters further improve durability and extend life — over 15,000 hours. Axle oil-pressure monitoring alerts the operator if a leak occurs.

### Outboard-Extreme™ axle

Our rugged new Outboard-Extreme rear axle (standard on the 848L and 948L, optional on the 748L) is the biggest, most rugged axle in the woods and sets a new standard for reliability.

### Straight bushings with grease-thru pins

Straight bushings at all grapple, arch, boom, and blade joints deliver longer, trouble-free life and are easier to replace. Grease-thru pins ensure even lubrication and are more resistant to dust, rust, and debris.

### More durable, easier-to-service components

The beefier roller-bearing articulation joint has been updated for longer life. Boom-arch hoses have been rerouted inside the arch where they are better protected and easier to access for fast repair.

### Simplified electrical system

The number of relays and switches has been greatly reduced, simplifying maintenance of the electrical system. Diagnostic software makes it easy to troubleshoot any wiring issues.



OVER **15K** HOURS  
AXLE LIFE

**POWER WHEN YOU NEED IT**

# Continuous Variable Transmission (CVT) and drivetrain.

The easy-to-use CVT transmission combines the smoothness and operating ease of a hydrostatic transmission with the fuel efficiency of a lock-up torque converter.

### Improved durability and impressive fluid economy

The new CVT transmission enables a constant engine speed, reducing engine wear while ensuring excellent fluid economy. Proven components, simplified electronics, and internally routed hoses further bolster durability.

### Easy to operate

No more shifting — or “shift shocks” due to surging rpm. Simply set the maximum speed and let the transmission do the rest. Configurable speed ranges eliminate the need to hunt for the correct gear, shortening the learning curve for new operators while helping experienced operators maximize productivity.

### More power to the ground

CVT automatically senses the load, delivering more torque and tractive effort as needed to maintain the desired speed.

### Optimal engine speed

Engine speed remains at a constant 1,800 rpm, allowing consistent multifunction performance and lower fuel consumption.



# LONGER ENGINE LIFE

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# ON ALL MODELS



✓ **60.5M**

TEST HOURS TOWARDS FT4

## FT4 COMPLIANCE

# Tiers without fears.

You asked for the best technology to meet EPA Final Tier 4/EU Stage IV emission regulations, and we listened. We understand your concerns, so we've always focused on adding the right engine technologies at the right time. This smart approach to meeting emission regulations doesn't compromise on power, reliability, or ease of operation.

### FT4 engines

Our FT4/Stage IV diesel engines meet emission regulations without sacrificing power or torque. We built on our EPA Interim Tier 4 (IT4)/EU Stage IIIB solution to deliver the best combination of performance, efficiency, and reliability. These technologies are simple and fluid efficient.

### Minimal impact on operation

During normal operating conditions, the engine's natural heat breaks down trapped particulate matter and cleans the exhaust filter without impacting machine operation. Ash-service intervals for the diesel particulate filter (DPF) are condition based, meaning the machine will notify the operator before service is required. Typically, ash service is not necessary until the first engine overhaul. Machine application, regular maintenance practices, and type of lubricating oil impact ash-service intervals.

### Low total fluid consumption

John Deere FT4 engines maintain engine performance while minimizing total fluid consumption — diesel fuel plus diesel exhaust fluid (DEF). The exceptionally low DEF consumption rate reduces the need for DEF by four to six times compared to some other FT4 systems.

“ One of the biggest fears everybody had with the FT4 components was where we were going to put them in a small space. Even with these new components, the serviceability has greatly increased. You can now reach the top of the motor easier. ”

**Derek Paternostro, General Manager**  
Doggett Machinery Services, Covington, Louisiana



## DRAG MORE WOOD All business.

L-Series Skidders deliver more horsepower, stability, and grapple options — for the serious performance you need to stay on top of your game.

### More grapple choices

New larger grapples — up to a massive 22.3 sq. ft. on the 948L (that's 25-percent larger than the largest H-Series machine) — give you more flexibility to configure a skidder to best match your application. The new arch design provides a better view to bunches for more efficient loading.

### Increased power and stability

L-Series machines combine best-in-class horsepower and an impressive power-to-weight ratio with a constant engine speed — for superb responsiveness and maximum efficiency. Better machine balance optimizes pulling power, while improving stability when climbing hills, navigating adverse terrain, or hauling bigger payloads.

### Independent axle diff lock

Engage all four tires, or just the front two or rear two as needed, to maneuver through tough terrain or out of tight spots.

### Easy EH controls

Electrohydraulic (EH) controls deliver one-of-a-kind operating ease and smooth control for faster combined-function cycle times.



**UP TO  
40% FASTER  
CYCLE TIMES**  
OF THE BOOM, ARCH, AND GRAPPLE

LARGEST GRAPPLE IS  
**25%  
LARGER**



**25%**  
LARGER  
OPERATOR  
STATION

**75%**  
LARGER  
REAR  
WINDOW



**1/2 THE NOISE**

## OPERATE IN QUIET COMFORT Strong, silent type.

Your operators will quietly go about their business with less fatigue in an L-Series Skidder. Designed by loggers for loggers, the cab is 25-percent roomier and 50-percent quieter. Other fatigue-beating creature comforts include a more efficient HVAC system, improved ergonomic controls, and plenty of storage space. Joystick steering and an optional rotating seat reduce strain on your back and neck.

### Rotating seat provides more comfortable rear view

Opt for a rotating high-backed seat with joystick steering. The rotating seat improves rearward visibility to the grapple and minimizes neck turn.

### Enhanced lighting options

Six high-intensity halogen lights are standard when you need to extend your workday beyond daylight. For additional illumination, opt for a working-light or LED package.

### Configurable controls

Multiple operators can adjust control settings to their individual preferences and save favorite configurations, reducing reprogramming time and helping keep operators productive and on the job.

### Effortless operation

Armrest-mounted electrohydraulic (EH) controls provide fingertip control of all machine functions and turn with you when you use the optional rotating seat. Optional joystick steering is smooth and responsive, providing intuitive, low-effort control of steering, direction, and ground speed.

“They’ve done pretty much everything we discussed. A big improvement is the size of the cab. The joystick controls are quite easy to use — they’re great. And the rotating seat is a lot easier on operators. They’ll work longer and happier without strain.”

**Roger Ferguson, CAG member**  
Sika Logging, Taupo, New Zealand





**ULTIMATE UPTIME, FORESTSIGHT™, TIMBERNAVI™**

## Because time is money.

As a logger, you demand more uptime. Fast, accurate diagnosis of machine problems. Rapid, effective service response and the right part, the first time. And closer tracking of machines and operators for efficient operation. John Deere forestry technology solutions are there to help you.

### Ultimate Uptime

In addition to the base John Deere ForestSight features, our dealers work with you to build an uptime package that meets your specific needs, including customized maintenance and repair agreements, onsite parts availability, extended warranties, fluid sampling, response-time guarantees, and more.

### John Deere ForestSight

With a JDLink™ subscription, alerts can be sent to your computer or mobile device — or your dealer, if you choose — to inform you of immediate machine issues. If downtime does occur, exclusive remote diagnostics and programming enable your Deere dealer to minimize the time and cost associated with sending a technician to the logging site for an initial diagnostic visit. You can also receive reminders of periodic scheduled maintenance on your computer or mobile device, or from your dealer.

### Work faster with TimberNavi

Get a clearer picture of your operations with the optional new TimberNavi. This easy-to-use system provides real-time GPS positions of bunch locations on a rugged color touchscreen display, enabling operators to work faster. Precise knowledge of skid distances will help you maximize efficiency, so you can move more wood to the landing at less cost.

**Quick and easy serviceability**

Filters and critical components are conveniently located for fast service. Large panels are easily removed for wide-open access to the engine compartment, and the cab tilts to provide a quick route to other components. Grease points for boom and arch are easily reached from ground level, while extended service intervals help to further reduce maintenance time.

**Auto-idle and shutdown**

Auto-idle automatically reduces engine speed after an operator-configurable interval of inactivity, reducing fuel consumption and noise, while extending component life. Auto shutdown turns off the engine after a preset length of time, further reducing engine wear and fuel costs.

**Reliable fuel economy**

Efficient Continuous Variable Transmission (CVT) keeps engine speed constant to reduce fuel consumption, while maintaining a smooth ride and providing optimal power to the ground.

**Hydraulic reversing fan**

Auto-reversing fan reverses airflow at 30-min. intervals, or can be activated by the operator as needed, to eject debris from the cooler cores. Variable-speed fan runs only as fast as needed, or if conditions demand more frequent cleaning, simply press a button to actuate the reversing cycle.

**Extended filter-change interval**

Hydraulic filter service has been extended from 2,000 to 4,000 hours, decreasing planned downtime and expense. Most customers will be able to work a whole season without a change interrupting production.

**Wide-open access to cooling package**

Cooling fan and other cooling system components swing out for quick and easy cleaning. Cooling fan reverse times are programmable to alternate settings to meet specific applications or conditions.



# *SERVICE MADE SIMPLE.*



What you provide keeps the rest of the world working. And your passion for the woods keeps you working long after most people have called it a day. Since 1965 when we introduced our 440 Skidder, we've continued to change the game for loggers with safer and more comfortable machines. To make your tough job just a little bit easier. Today that same customer-inspired commitment to quality lives on in the L-Series Skidders. Because when you talk, we listen.

**We're for Loggers**



**JOHN DEERE**