

9/11/2020

Tipper truck roll away fatality

11 October 2020

A 50-year-old mechanic suffered fatal crush injuries in Tumut, whilst working on the brake line of a tipper truck. The worker was situated underneath the truck when it rolled forward over the worker before coming to rest after colliding with another parked tipper truck.



Photos of the tipper truck from the scene.

Safety information

Businesses must implement 'reasonably practicable' control measures to manage the risks associated with uncontrolled movements (e.g. roll aways) of vehicles, including trucks, cars, buses, vans, forklifts, tractors, mobile cranes and the like.

You must:

- When acquiring vehicles, consider models and options that eliminate or minimise the risk of uncontrolled movement
- Park the vehicle on level ground. Where it is not reasonably practicable to park the vehicle on level ground, be aware of the limitations of the vehicle including the maximum slope of the supporting surface and what to do when parking on a gradient
- Always apply the parking brake when exiting the vehicle

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing and the findings are not yet confirmed. SafeWork NSW has commenced an investigation in response to the incident to determine its cause and circumstances. No conclusions should be drawn from the information in this publication about the cause of the incident or the culpability of any party.



Incident Information Release

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- Appropriately chock the wheels of vehicles and trailers before conducting inspection or maintenance activities to prevent uncontrolled movement
- Ensure the vehicle is inspected and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations
- Be familiar with the components and limitations of the braking system that may cause unintentional release of the brakes
- Consider implementing aftermarket controls that minimise the risk of uncontrolled movement of vehicles, (e.g. include seat sensor interlocked brakes or fail-safe braking systems)
- Where it is not reasonably practicable to employ engineering controls, implement other controls such as alarm systems and/or operating procedures
- Develop site specific parking locations and procedures in consultation with workers
- Ensure workers have the necessary training, experience and supervision to identify hazards and control the risks associated with the uncontrolled movement of vehicles
- Routinely monitor and review all control measures.

More information

- Code of practice for managing the risks of plant in the workplace
- Working with or around mobile plant safety alert
- Uncontrolled movement of vehicles safety alert.

View the latest incident information releases at safework.nsw.gov.au

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