

# NZ Safety Alert

27 November 2020

Let's work together to keep ourselves and our workers safe

## Worker falls exiting dump truck

After finishing his shift, a worker exited his dump truck for the day. He realised that he had forgotten something in the dump truck and went back to retrieve the book. Once he retrieved the book, he closed the cab door while standing on the second step. As he did so, he slipped, twisted and hit his right-hand side against the cowling and fire suppression system, with his foot stuck in the step.

The worker was taken to the local A&E, where they determined there were no broken bones, but he had sustained multiple contusions and strains.

Falls are a major cause of fatalities in the extractives sector, both in New Zealand and internationally. Of the nine fatalities in the extractives sector since 2011, six of them were a result of falls.

MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 36 months to June 2020 show 17% of all incidents (513 incidents) involve falls, 244 of which resulted from fall of a person.



### You need to ensure that:

1. You always maintain three points of contact when entering and exiting mobile equipment, keeping hands free of loose items.
2. Fall hazards such as poor access and areas where workers can fall from height are identified in risk assessments.
3. You stand on landings for opening and closing cab doors where available and ensure any access platforms are stable.

Know of an incident or near miss? Please share the learnings with us.