

# NZ Safety Alert

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

January 2020

## Crush injury while welding

A worker was welding on a grader blade turn circle that was not chocked adequately. The stand failed and the turn circle rotated downwards onto the concrete causing severe crush injuries to his feet.

WorkSafe have observed equipment that is being maintained in workshops or out in the field that have not been appropriately chocked while people have been working under or around the equipment.

Some machinery observed has been suspended under its own power (i.e. lifted with the equipment's own floor jacks). Workers have also been seen working under elevated dump truck trays where they are only relying on the hydraulic system. The equipment was also not isolated.



**MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 27 months to Sept 2019 show 19% of all incident (424 incidents) result from falls incidents, 137 of which are due to fall of equipment.**

### You need to ensure that:

1. Where equipment is elevated and crush or entrapment hazards exist, all plant is isolated prior to commencing work on it.
2. Fit for purpose chocking and lifting equipment is used for maintenance tasks.
3. Maintenance is always conducted in accordance with Original Equipment Manufacturers specifications.
4. Equipment is never suspended under its own power (i.e. lifted with the equipment's own floor jacks).
5. Regular workplace inspections are conducted to check equipment and to ensure procedures are being followed.

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