

NZ Safety Alert

18 February 2022

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

Uncontrolled movement of dozer



A. Approximate location mechanic exited the dozer.

B. Final stopping point of dozer.

A mechanic was returning a dozer to the workshop along a sloping haul road. While shifting from reverse to first gear, the first gear would not engage, and the dozer started rolling backwards.

As the dozer gathered backward momentum, the mechanic evacuated the dozer by jumping from the cabin to the ground approximately 10 metres from the top of the slope. The dozer continued to travel approximately another 140 metres before stopping on the roadway below.

The mechanic sustained no injuries while exiting the cabin and the dozer had minor damage to a window.

You need to ensure that:

1. All maintenance staff are trained and assessed as competent to operate equipment outside of workshops.
2. All workers understand and follow safe work procedures.
3. Workplace inspections include behaviour and task identification to ensure tasks are carried out safely by qualified workers.

[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm show 30% (1,284) of all incidents involved vehicles, and 576 involved loss of control of a vehicle.

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