

NZ Safety Alert

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

October 2019

Truck tyre blow out



A worker was washing down a dump truck at the wash pad when the truck experienced a rupture of the rear left hand tyre involving the inside sidewall and bead.

At the time of the incident the body of the truck was in a raised position and the operator was at the rear of the truck, bending down to retrieve a hose, when he heard a loud noise and the truck dropped on the left side.

The worker received first aid and was lucky to sustain no injuries from the incident.

Just this week at the Port of Brisbane in QLD, a 66-year-old man was killed when he sustained a fatal injury from an exploding truck tyre.

You need to ensure that:

1. Regular inspections of tyres and rim assemblies are conducted to detect defects.
2. An exclusion zone is established when inflating tyres and workers stand outside of the exclusion zones when seating a tyre bead and inflating tyres above 35 kPa or 5 psi.
3. The air hose between the clip-on valve nozzle and the remote gauge and trigger is long enough for workers to stay outside of the exclusion zone.
4. A remote dump valve is fitted that is capable of rapidly deflating the tyre in an emergency.
5. Tyre fitters and workers inspecting tyres and rims are trained and assessed as competent to complete these tasks.

MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 24 months to June 2019 show 7% of all incidents (122 incidents) result from pressure release, half of which result from hydraulic pressure release or explosion.

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