

# NZ Safety Alert

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

March 2019

## Stockpile tip hazards

On inspection of the stockpile area, a supervisor observed a ramp and stockpile tip area that had inadequate side berms and no stop bund at the top of the stockpile tipping edge. On further inspection it appeared from the tyre marks that edge tipping had occurred. A contractor used the loader the day before to clear the stockpile ramp to create more room for when they next needed to cart material to this area. In doing so he pushed the berms over the tipping edge. He was called away to do other work and left the stockpile edge with no berm in place.



Photo: No berm on the tipping edge

The angle of repose from the tipping edge was approximately 8 metres.

Access to the stockpile ramp was immediately barricaded off to stop further tipping.

**MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 2 years to March 2019 shows that 20% of all incidents result from falls - of which 109 incidents result from fall of equipment.**

### You need to ensure that:

1. Adequate stop bunds are in place when edge-tipping on ramps, benches or dumps.
2. Ramp edges are adequately bunded to reduce the risk of falls and edge failure.
3. Regular workplace inspections are conducted to identify fall hazards, including inspection of slopes and tip areas prior to tipping commencing.
4. All workers are trained and assessed as competent in safe stockpiling operations.

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