

NZ Safety Alert

16 October 2020

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

Potential fall from height

A trainee worker was spotted standing on a grizzly at the plant to clear rocks caught in the bars, while the plant was running. He was requested to immediately get down from the grizzly.

When spoken with, the worker advised that he was standing in the loader bucket, not on the grizzly.

During his training, the worker had been instructed in how to feed the grizzly but not how to clear it. He had, however, witnessed other workers doing it from the loader bucket.

The trainee was not being supervised at the time.



MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 33 months to March 2020 show 18% of all incidents (486 incidents) result from falls, 232 of which are fall of a person.

You need to ensure that:

1. Suitable working platforms are used to conduct work at height.
2. You train workers in safe plant operating and maintenance procedures and regularly assess them as competent to operate and maintain all plant.
3. Regular workplace inspections are conducted to identify work areas where there are fall hazards and what, if any, exposure workers have to these hazards.

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