

NZ Safety Alert

17 May 2024

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

Truck rollover incident

A loaded truck lost revs on the haul road as it approached the top of a hill. The driver changed to a lower gear, but the truck had lost momentum so he then applied the brakes which did not stop the truck from sliding backwards.

As the driver tried to get some forward momentum, he heard something “pop”, which was potentially the drive shaft.

The truck continued to slide uncontrollably backwards and gain speed, and in an attempt to stop the truck the driver turned the truck into the batter causing the vehicle to overturn.



[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 5 years show 30% of incidents (1,834 incidents) involve vehicles of which 892 involve loss of control of a vehicle.

You need to ensure that:

1. Haul roads are maintained and loose material removed to assist traction for heavy vehicles.
2. Haul road design, including camber and gradient, take into account the types of heavy vehicles being used on them.
3. Driver training includes driving in all situations, locations, and conditions foreseeable at the site.

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