

Safety Alert

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

23 August 2024

Chain breaks while towing

A quarry truck became stuck in soft ground at a dump site and needed to be towed out.

Workers used a chain to tow instead of a heavy-duty bungee cord. While towing the truck out of the soft ground, the chain snapped.

There were no injuries or damage to plant or vehicles, but there could have been serious injury from the snapped chain.

All staff had discussed the correct procedure for recovery the previous month.



[MinEx statistics](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 6 years show 16% of incidents (1,007 incidents) involve falls of which 383 result from fall of equipment.

You need to ensure that:

1. Appropriate equipment for any task is readily available at locations where it may be required. In this case a heavy-duty towing cord in the vehicle.
2. All workers are trained and assessed as competent to carry out all tasks and procedures that they may be required to follow.
3. Appropriate tools and equipment are used for any task.
4. Plant operators check the suitability of tip sites, including ground stability, before tipping.

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