

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

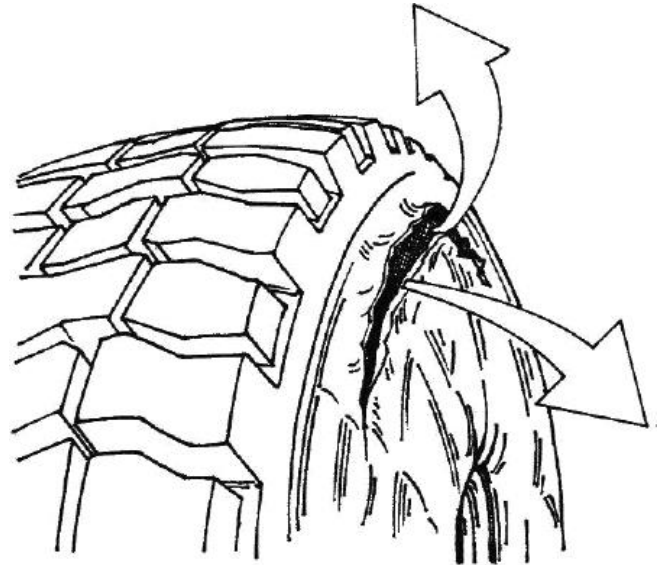
8 November 2024

Tyre explosion kills worker

You would have read last week a worker in Christchurch was killed when the crane tyre he was fitting exploded.

This incident is a grim reminder of the explosive risks posed during tyre repairs, inflation and installation.

Inflated tyres, particularly heavy vehicle tyres, contain a large amount of stored energy. Tyres are designed to withstand this, but if they are damaged or have been used while flat (or significantly underinflated), they may fail.



[MinEx statistics](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 6 years show 5% of incidents (297 incidents) resulted from pressure release, of which 118 resulted from release of hydraulic pressure.

You need to ensure that:

1. Regular tyre maintenance includes checking tyres for condition, matching, pressure, tread depth and wear patterns, as well as rims for corrosion or cracking.
2. You always follow the recommended tyre servicing procedures and ensure all workers undertaking these procedures are trained and follow them.
3. You deflate tyres prior to them being removed from machinery or vehicles and inflate tyres in a safety cage or other portable restraint device.

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