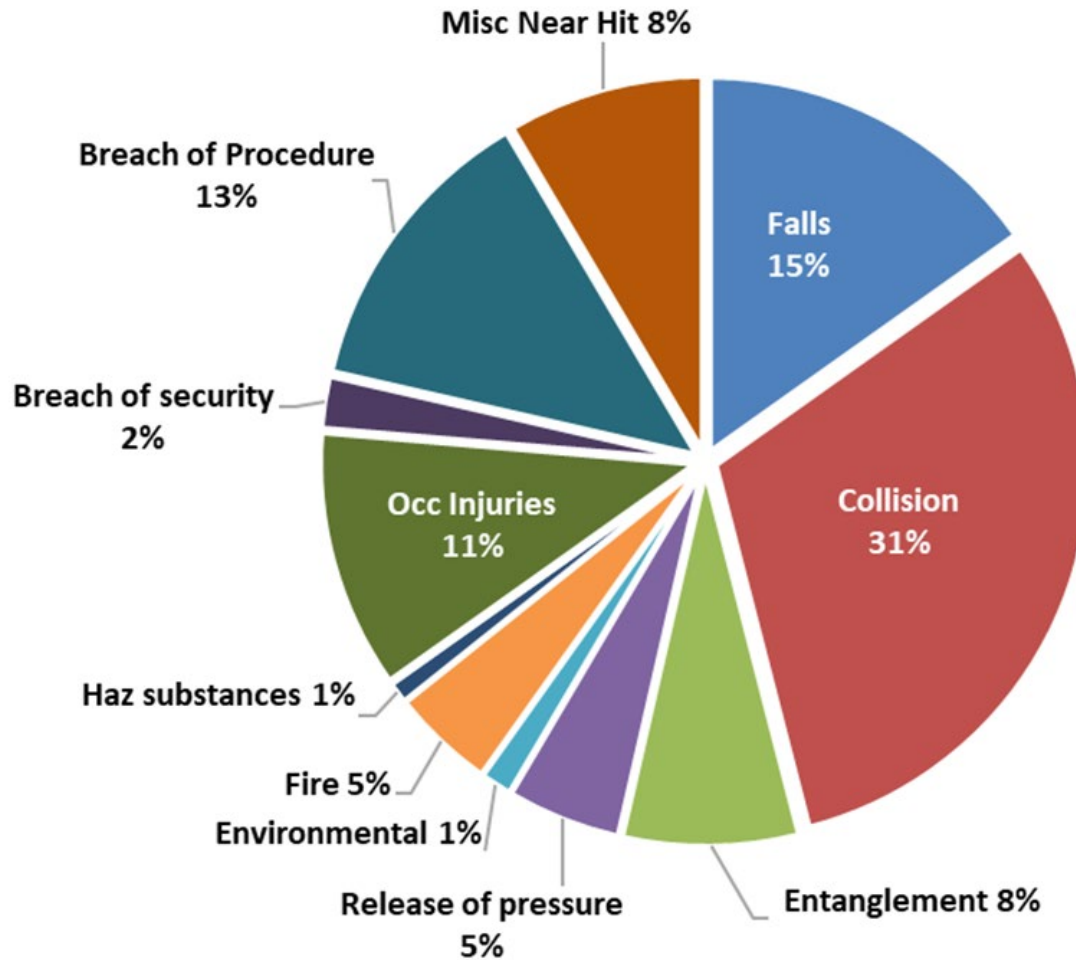


Fall Hazards



All Operations - All incidents Q4 October to December 2021



WorkSafe Alert Dec 2021

Routine maintenance

Poor access and egress

**Inappropriate working platform
(ladder)**

Fell 2.1 metres

**Rib fracture and cuts requiring
stiches**



Falls – 694 incidents

Fall of ground - 23%

Fall of equipment - 34%

Fall of person - 43%



Working at height



Fall of people

Poor access & egress

Maintenance

Irregular tasks

Climbing onto mobile equipment

It's the way we have always done it!!



Effective controls

Fall hazards such as trip hazards and areas where workers can fall from height should be identified in *effective risk assessments*.

Suitable working platforms should be used to conduct work at heights.

Regular *workplace inspections* should be conducted to identify work areas where there are fall hazards and what, if any, exposure workers have to these hazards.

Ensure suitable *fall prevention equipment* is available and maintained.

No-one should conduct work from a ladder. Ladders should be fixed and only used to climb up and descend from a work area.



Fall of equipment

Unstable plant

Maintenance

Lifting techniques

Housekeeping

*It's the way we have always
done it!!*



Effective controls

All items of plant, including tools and leads etc. are ***fundamentally stable*** at all times. This means placing tools where they cannot fall, disconnecting power leads and rolling away leads and hoses.

When lifting ensure that ***no-one is in the fall zone*** of the item being lifted.

You regularly inspect all equipment used for lifting.

Regular ***workplace inspections*** are conducted to identify housekeeping issues and set-up of work areas that could put workers at risk of harm.

Operators are ***trained and assessed as competent*** to operate plant and equipment, including lifting equipment and insuring plant is fundamentally stable.

Fall of ground

Weak rock, bedding, joints, structures

Blast damage

High faces or stockpiles

Climatic conditions, water

It's the way we have always done it!!



Effective controls

Regular ***workplace inspections*** to identify wall movement or instability.

Remove overhangs, loose material and other face hazards by blasting, scaling or cleaning faces.

Ensure ***bench and stockpile heights*** are no higher than the reach of your excavator or loader.

Where possible, decrease bench heights and overall slope height and angle to reduce the chance of rockfall.

Where instability is identified place an adequate ***catch bund*** near the toe and establish an adequate stand-off distance/***exclusion zone***.

Establish procedures for safe entry to the pit following weather events or blasting.

Question often asked

Why is it that we continue to have the same incidents despite thorough investigation, safety alerts, sharing of learnings from incidents?

Some of my observations

When we conduct investigations into incidents there is a tendency to **“jump to conclusions”** without recognising underlying root causes.

We move on too quickly from High Potential Incidents.

Investigation findings are not communicated effectively.

Remedial actions are not followed up.

Loss of corporate memory (staff turnover).

“Our people wouldn’t do that !!!” (Denial that it applies to us).



“There are three kinds of men...the one that learns by reading...the few who learn by observation...the rest of them have to pee on the electric fence for themselves.”

Will Rogers

There is help!!

Minex website - Booklets

<https://www.minex.org.nz/>



WorkSafe - Working at height

<https://www.worksafe.govt.nz/topic-and-industry/working-at-height>

WorkSafe - Best practice guidelines

<https://www.worksafe.govt.nz/dmsdocument/500-best-practice-guidelines-for-working-at-height-in-new-zealand>

Falls checklist

Site inspection of:

Access for Maintenance

**Lifting techniques &
equipment**

Housekeeping

Item/activity	Comments/Observations
What areas have been identified where persons can fall from height or be affected by something falling from height (e.g. benches, off a piece of fixed plant, ladder ways, walkways, platforms, mobile equipment)	
What specific controls does the site have in place to manage these hazards/risks	
What fall incidents have occurred in the last 12 months on site and what has been done to control or address these	
How are personnel made aware generally of the existence of these hazards and associated controls (induction)	
How are personnel made aware of the task specific controls necessary to prevent falls	
How does the site ensure the effectiveness of these controls	
How often are inspections and audits carried out	



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