

# NZ Safety Alert

9 October 2020

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

## Bar hits worker in face

During assembly of a new screen on the crushing plant, a crane lifted the plant to allow the wheel assembly to be released. While a worker was attempting to remove the pin of the wheel assembly, the wheel assembly became jammed.

The worker used a bar to try and release the pin and while pulling on the bar, it slipped out and struck the worker in the face, chipping a tooth.

The team working on the plant shift were experienced at working together. While there was no supervisor present, the task was discussed verbally – however no risk assessment was completed, the possibility of this situation was not discussed, nor did they discuss it before manually trying to release the pin.



MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 33 months to March 2020 show 13% of all incidents (365 incidents) resulted in occupational injury.

### You need to ensure that:

1. Effective risk assessments are conducted prior to commencing any non-routine task.
2. Workers stop and reassess the task when something changes, or the task cannot be completed as originally envisaged.
3. Workers are trained and regularly assessed competent in conducting effective risk assessments including stopping to re-group and discuss a new task step that may arise during an activity.

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