

# NZ Safety Alert

17 March 2023

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

## Ankle fractured exiting plant

A worker was tasked with general maintenance around the entry to a quarry, and weighbridge area, using a 1.5T excavator.

The worker parked the excavator and as he stepped off, he rolled his left ankle as his foot landed on the ground. Ice was applied and the foot was elevated until the operator was taken to A&E for assessment.

An X-ray showed that the operator sustained a fracture to his left fibula.



[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 5 years show 15% (804) of all incidents result in an occupational injury.

### You need to ensure:

1. Plant operators maintain three points of contact when entering and exiting the cabins of mobile equipment.
2. Safety boots are securely fastened, either laced up or zipped up.
3. Good housekeeping ensures work areas are free from obstructions to prevent slips, trips and falls.

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