

# NZ Safety Alert

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

May 2019

## Dump truck fatality

A Blenheim company have just been fined heavily for a fatality in 2017, when a dump truck rolled down a bank (refer WorkSafe alert in this week's alerts).

The company failed to communicate, monitor and enforce policies that vehicles can only be driven by workers that were wearing seatbelts and had appropriate licenses. The worker was hired as a labourer and was not licensed to drive the truck which weighed more than six tonnes.

The company also allowed the workers to drive trucks on numerous occasions, despite being aware of their inexperience. The company was also aware of risks around driving on dangerous roads in the area.



**MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 18 months to Dec 2018 shows that 28% of all incidents involve vehicles of which 176 incidents (48%) were a result of loss of control of a vehicle.**

### You need to ensure that:

1. Operators are adequately trained and competent to operate mobile equipment in all circumstances and conditions.
2. Seatbelts are worn at all times in mobile equipment and regular checks are conducted to ensure they are worn.
3. All company policies and procedures are routinely checked for compliance and that there are consequences for non-compliance.
4. Regular workplace inspections are conducted to ensure policies and procedures are being followed by workers.

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