

NZ Safety Alert

3 March 2023

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

Finger injured during maintenance

A worker and a contractor were removing the track of a D8 dozer. After removing the master pin from above the rear sprocket, and while the worker was packing down the tools from on top of the track, the track started moving.

Fearing the track may hit the ute parked in front of it, the worker tried to stop the track running and caught his right index finger between the cleats.

The worker sustained serious injury to his finger which required medical attention and some time off work.



You need to ensure:

1. Where practical, that maintenance activities are conducted from the ground. In this case the master pin could have been removed from a point closer to the ground.
2. All plant is fundamentally stable before commencing maintenance work. Chocks, chains etc. should be used to stabilise the plant.
3. Maintenance areas are clear of mobile plant and equipment before conducting maintenance tasks.

[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 5 years show 14% (767) of all incidents result in an occupational injury.

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