

NZ Safety Alert

6 May 2022

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

Laceration above right eye

Two lab technicians were doing some compaction testing with a clegg hammer in a rehabilitated area.

After completing the test, one technician carried the clegg hammer down the batter to the ute below. The other technician decided to throw down a spray canister of paint to the other technician, thinking it would save time rather than carrying it down with the other equipment.

Unfortunately, the technician below was unable to catch the canister and was struck by it above the right eye causing a laceration.



You need to ensure that:

1. Safe handling instructions are followed when using any equipment, solvents, paint etc.
2. Safety data sheets are always available for all workers. Most canisters carry this information on them.
3. Appropriate bags, trolleys etc. are used to transport all tools and equipment.
4. All workers are aware that no task is too important that it cannot be done safely.

[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 4 years to Dec 2021 shows 16% (638) of all incidents resulted in occupational injuries.

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