

NZ Safety Alert

21 October 2022

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

Trailer brake fire

A truck and trailer was traveling on a local road when the driver noticed a problem with the trailer. There was nowhere to pull over and as he slowed down he noticed that the trailer brakes were grabbing and making a noise.

The driver was able to pull over within a few minutes where he noticed the rotors glowing and the trailer brakes on fire.

A fire extinguisher was used to extinguish the flames, no-one sustained any injuries.



[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 5 years to June 2022 show 3% (155) of all incidents result from fire.

You need to ensure that:

1. All mobile equipment is maintained in accordance with Original Equipment Manufacturers requirements.
2. Prestart inspections are conducted on all mobile equipment at the start of each shift.
3. All workers are trained and assessed as competent to operate mobile equipment, including identification of potential equipment failure and the consequences of such failure.

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