

# NZ Safety Alert

28 October 2022

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

## Uncontrolled movement of trailer

Due to a site being very constricted, a driver of a truck and trailer needed to disconnect his trailer to be able to deliver the truck load into a shed. Despite site requirements for rigid only deliveries, on this day there were four other truck/trailer units in the yard where this driver backed into the carpark to disconnect the trailer.

The driver disconnected the trailer, but the ring feeder pin was stuck, so he disconnected the trailer brakes. Once he got the pin out, he thought that he had engaged the trailer brakes.

As he moved the truck forward, the trailer started moving slowly towards the cars in the carpark. Another contractor on site, tried to slow down the trailer by hand, then saw the trailer brake button and engaged the brakes stopping the trailer.



### You need to ensure that:

1. All allocators and delivery drivers are aware of site restrictions and requirements at delivery sites.
2. Prestart inspections are conducted on all mobile equipment at the start of each shift, including truck and trailer connections.
3. All workers are trained and assessed as competent to operate mobile equipment, including braking systems, connecting and disconnecting trailers, and parking on inclines.

[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 5 years to June 2022 show 29% (1,487) of all incidents involve vehicles of which 689 result from loss of control of a vehicle.

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