

# NZ Safety Alert

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

30 April 2021

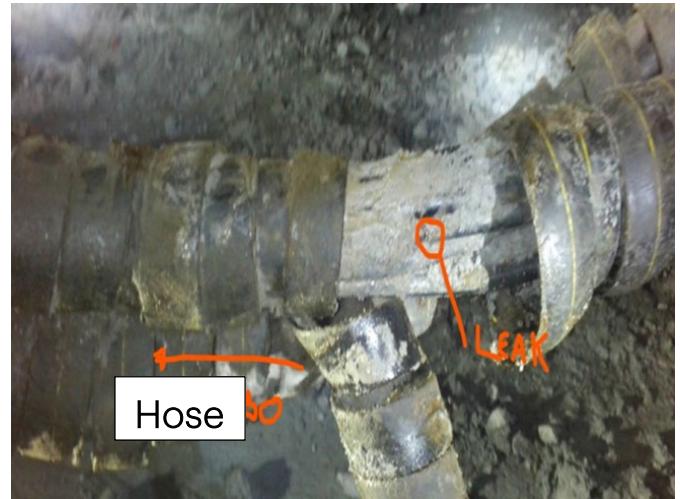
## Potential hydraulic injection of worker

A mobile plant operator and a fellow worker were in the process of starting the plant when a small oil leak was noticed in a hydraulic hose near the cabin.

The plant was isolated, and hose wrap was partially removed to identify where the leak was originating. The operator began fault finding by systematically energising the hydraulic hoses.

The second worker was observing whilst the operator activated individual levers. The operator could not see the fellow worker.

The worker placed his hand on the loom in the approximate location of the suspected leak and as the lever was activated, he received an impact injury on his left thumb pad from a spurt of hydraulic oil. His thumb was approximately 40mm from the hoses at the time.



### You need to ensure that:

1. Workers identify all hazards prior to commencing any task including the potential for hydraulic or other pressure injections.
2. All energy sources are isolated, or workers removed from the danger zone while fault finding is being conducted.
3. All workers are trained in the dangers of pressure release including hydraulic pressure.

MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 42 months to Dec 2020 show 6% of all incidents (197 incidents) resulted from pressure release, of which 61 incidents involved hydraulic pressure.