

NZ Safety Alert

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

July 2019

Split fuel hose covers worker

A worker was refueling his forklift when the hose on the diesel bowser split spraying diesel over his head, face and top part of his body.

He washed off the diesel he could at site and was then sent home to shower and give his eyes a good rinse. The site kept in contact with him throughout the day checking how he was. He suffered a minor headache but no other problems. He returned to work the next day.

The above ground fuel tank is hired. When the owner of the tank was contacted to ask what checks they carried out, and to request a new hose, they did not even know this company had one of their tanks.



MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 2 years to March 2019 shows 7% of all incidents result from release of pressure of which 32 incidents result from release of hydraulic pressure.

You need to ensure that:

1. Regular and appropriate checks are made of all fuel tanks, hoses and dispensing units.
2. Where relying on contractors or others to do checks and maintenance, regular inspections are conducted to ensure maintenance is carried out correctly.
3. Fuel and diesel are included in hazardous substance inventories and Safety Data Sheets are available to workers.
4. Appropriate washing facilities are available on site in the event that workers are exposed to hazardous substances.

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