

NZ Safety Alert

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

21 July 2023

Uncontrolled movement of conveyor

A new mobile crushing plant was undergoing its first total service after 1-2 weeks of initial operation.

During servicing the returns belt locking pin was removed to allow access for the fitter to a part of the machine. The fitter forgot to resecure the locking pin after completing the work.

After a few minutes the returns belt swung around and made a slow but uncontrolled swing, coming to rest on the ground.

No-one was injured and there was no damage to the conveyor or any plant nearby.



[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 5 years show 17% of incidents (945 incidents) result from falls, of which 371 result from fall of equipment.

You need to ensure that:

1. When servicing mobile plant, all other plant is removed from the maintenance area and an exclusion zone is set up to restrict access during maintenance.
2. All plant is isolated and fundamentally stable before commencing any maintenance task.
3. Workers complete one maintenance task at a time and safety critical components are replaced before moving to the next task.
4. Regular workplace inspections are conducted, particularly during maintenance work, to identify hazards and the effectiveness of controls.

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