

NZ Safety Alert

8 September 2023

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

Unintended movement of work basket

An electrician was working in a work basket attached to an integrated tool carrier (IT). As the operator of the IT leant forward on the seat to better observe the basket, his seat lifted vertically due to the reduction in weight, and the operator made contact with the touch screen controls.

The boom height adjustment lever was pushed back, resulting in an uncontrolled upward movement of the basket.

The electrician crouched down in the basket in response to the unexpected upward movement and in doing so, in combination with the crush protection bar, avoided injury.



[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 5 years show 30% of incidents (1,784 incidents) involve vehicles, of which 871 resulted from loss of control of a vehicle.

You need to ensure that:

1. All operators of mobile equipment are trained and assessed as competent to operate that equipment.
2. Any objects in cabins or mobile equipment, whether Original Equipment Manufacturer or after market, that have the potential to interfere with controls are addressed prior to operation of that equipment.
3. Fit-for-purpose equipment is used for all tasks.
4. All work baskets have basket crush protection systems installed.

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