

NZ Safety Alert

27 October 2023

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

Worker falls on concrete

A quarry worker was cleaning a build-up of sludge on a concrete surface when he slipped over hitting his head on the concrete as he fell.

The worker developed nausea and dizziness and was taken to a medical centre for a check-up. No further treatment was required.

This is a daily task and wearing his hard hat protected the worker from serious harm.

For more information on head injuries and concussion visit the [Ministry of Health website](#).

[MinEx statistics](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 5 years show 16% of incidents (963 incidents) result from falls of which 368 result from fall of a person.



You need to ensure that:

1. Regular workplace inspections are conducted to identify areas of material build-up and where slip hazards may arise.
2. You eliminate spillage and material build up where practicable and ensure potential slip hazard areas are regularly cleaned with appropriate equipment e.g. water blasting.
3. All manual handling tasks are risk assessed and appropriate Person Protective Equipment (PPE) is worn.

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