

NZ Safety Alert

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

9 April 2021

Worker walks behind operating loader

A loader completed loading a truck with gravel, after which, the truck driver walked over to the loader and collected his docket.

As the driver walked back to his truck, he got a phone call and went "walkabout" while on his mobile phone. Being distracted on the call, he walked directly behind the operating loader.

The loader operator saw the driver on foot and took evasive action to prevent a high potential collision.



MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 39 months to Sept 2020 show 29% of all incidents (964 incidents) involve vehicles, of which 1% (29 incidents) involved potential collision with a person.

You need to ensure that:

1. Traffic Management controls include heavy vehicles ceasing operation when anyone is on foot in working areas.
2. You review rules around use of mobile phones on site and consider banning them in working areas.
3. You review docketing procedures to eliminate the need for customers to be on foot in working areas.

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