MinEx
Health and Safety in NZ extractives

Safety Alert

23 October 2026

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

Failure of locking bolt on axle

Failure of a locking bolt within the rear axle assembly of a truck allowed the retaining pin to move from its designed position. This caused displacement of the lateral control rod and rear axle assembly, bringing the P5 tyre into contact with metal components and causing a small fire.

A 400m exclusion zone was immediately established around the truck; access roads were coned off and barricaded. The truck remained within the exclusion zone and was monitored continuously for 24 hours. The fire was extinguished.



MinEx statistics on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 8 years show 3% of incidents (215 incidents) involve fire.

You need to ensure that:

1. All mobile plant is maintained in accordance with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) requirements.
2. Regular inspections are conducted of critical components on mobile equipment to detect wear, failure of components etc.
3. Where heat or fire may impact on vehicle tyres, the plant is isolated and monitored for at least 24 hours due to potential explosion of the tyre.

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