

# NZ Safety Alert

4 June 2021

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

## Contact between excavator and DT

An excavator had loaded two bucket loads onto a dump truck as the morning sun was rising.

As the operator swung the bucket with the third load, he lost vision of the bucket and the excavator stick, due to the sun rise.

The excavator extended the stick, however not high enough to clear the truck tray resulting in contact with the tray of the dump truck.

The contact caused the truck operator to hit their head on the side of the cab which resulted in them being taken to hospital for observation.



### You need to ensure that:

1. If mobile equipment operators experience any loss of visibility, including sunstrike, they stop operating and review the task and positioning of the equipment.
2. You review the suitability of seatbelts in mobile equipment and seatbelt clips, or other devices used to inhibit seatbelt movement.
3. All operators are trained and assessed as competent to safely operate mobile equipment.

MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 42 months to Dec 2020 show 30% of all incidents (1,044 incidents) involve mobile equipment, of which 16% (554 incidents) involved collisions.

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