

Hazard Alert - Vehicle Maintenance Activities

The operation and use of vehicles and equipment can pose a major hazard to workers.

Before completing vehicle maintenance tasks, a hazard assessment must be completed and equipment must be properly secured as per manufacturer requirements.

Incident Summary

A 55-year old worker was fatally injured when completing repairs to a pick-up truck. The truck, which had no functioning parking brake and wheels that were not properly chocked, moved forward and pinned the worker between the truck and another vehicle which was parked nearby. The worker succumbed to their injuries shortly after being taken to hospital.

Recommended Precautions

- Work vehicles must be properly secured to prevent movement prior to the start of any maintenance type work being performed.
- Work vehicles, including work trailers, must be inspected by a qualified person or firm at prescribed intervals and required repairs completed as dictated by the manufacturer of the equipment.
- A worker shall not enter or remain in a place where there is a danger of entrapment, pinning or being struck by a vehicle unless a safe access is provided or measures are put in place to control the hazard.
- A worker shall not operate, repair, or maintain work vehicles and equipment until appropriate hazard assessments are conducted and safe work procedures are developed and implemented.
- Workers must be fully trained in safe work procedures before the work proceeds.
- A worker must be appropriately trained by a qualified person or firm in the safe operation, use and general repairs of work vehicles, work trailers and any other similar type of equipment.