

NZ Safety Alert

13 August 2021

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

Oil leak causes potential fire

The operator of a haul truck called up workshop to come and have a look at an oil leak on a truck at the parking bay. The leak was picked up by the dozer operator when he saw oil on the ground at the loading area.

When the technician inspected the origin of the oil leak, he noticed that it was a hydraulic hose that sprayed into the engine bay and saw the turbo blanket was smouldering.

As a precautionary measure to the smouldering turbo blanket, the technician discharged a handheld fire extinguisher onto the area of the blanket.

MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 45 months to Mar 2021 show 3% of all incidents (121 incidents) result in fire or the potential for fire.



You need to ensure that:

1. Prestart checks are conducted on all mobile equipment prior to use on each shift, and any faults are reported immediately.
2. All signs of leaking oil are investigated immediately to determine the cause and potential for harm.
3. All service checks on mobile equipment include all hoses and fittings in accordance with Original Equipment Manufacturers requirements.

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