NZ Safety Alert



10 June 2022

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

Uncontrolled disconnection of air hose

Two maintenance fitters were tightening the top cover of a pump using an air operated impact wrench gun.

The 25mm diameter air hose unexpectedly detached from the wrench gun, resulting in the end of the air hose swinging uncontrollably away to the side of the fitters.

While one fitter reached across to isolate the air supply, the other fitter stood on the air hose to allow the successful isolation of the air supply.

No one was injured in the event.

MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 4 years to Dec 2021, shows 5% (233) of all incidents result from pressure release, with 84 incidents resulting from hydraulic pressure release.



You need to ensure that:

- All plant and equipment is regularly maintained in accordance with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) requirements.
- Tool registers are regularly checked to ensure maintenance is being conducted in accordance with OEM requirements.
- 3. Whip straps, safety chains or other safety devices are used on high pressure hoses to protect workers from sudden whipping of hoses.

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