

NZ Safety Alert

5 May 2023

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

Hydraulic hose leak

An excavator was working when a hydraulic hose blew on the quick hitch spraying hydraulic oil onto the ground.

The operator immediately turned off the excavator after lowering the boom. He tied rags around the hose and then got a spill kit to clean up the mess.

No-one was injured and the operator called the Hose Doctor who came and repaired the hose.



[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 5 years show 5% (254 incidents) of all incidents involve pressure release of which 91 resulted from release of hydraulic pressure.

You need to ensure:

1. Pre-start inspections are conducted on all mobile plant including checks of hose connections, and hoses for damage and wear.
2. Operators of mobile plant are trained and assessed as competent to operate plant including conducting pre-start checks.
3. Regular workplace inspections are conducted to identify unsafe behaviour and where procedures are not followed.

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