

# NZ Safety Alert

17 February 2023

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

## Muscular skeletal injuries

We are seeing increasing numbers of minor sprains & strains across the sector. In more serious injuries:

- A worker broke his leg when he slipped on a hose that was left lying on the ground.
- A worker was using a crowbar to straighten out a lock tab on a truck wheel that was preventing him from getting a socket onto a wheel nut. While applying pressure, the crowbar slipped causing him to rotate, however, his foot stayed still, resulting in the broken leg.



[MinEx data](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 5 years to September 2022 show 14% (767) of all incidents result in an occupational injury.

### You need to ensure:

1. Regular reviews are conducted of manual handling tasks to ensure they are conducted safely.
2. Where practical, mechanical devices or aids are used for traditionally manual tasks.
3. Regular workplace inspections are conducted to identify slip, trip and fall hazards, and poor housekeeping that could lead to injury.

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