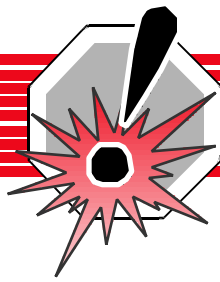


HAZARD ALERT



CEMENT TRUCK FAILURE INJURES WORKER

A construction-site accident was investigated by The New Brunswick Workplace Health, Safety & Compensation Commission following equipment failure on a concrete-mixing truck.

When concrete is being mixed, the crew sometimes will make visual checks of the contents of the drum, keeping an eye on the texture and consistency to ensure it isn't too liquid or too stiff for the pour. In this case, the worker was standing on the platform that overlooks the hopper of the mixing unit to check the concrete when he felt the truck start to tilt. As the mixing drum broke loose and rolled off the truck, the worker managed to jump clear, injuring his back in the process. The drum missed other workers in the area, but crushed the front of a van parked nearby.

The WHSCC investigating officer discovered that the mounting bolts that held the drum in place had failed. Two had been sheared off and the remaining two badly twisted. Although the truck had just undergone a safety check that morning, the mounting bolts had not been on the checklist.



Preventive Action

1. Check bolts and nuts on the mounting assembly on a regular basis. **IMPORTANT:** Check the bolts and nuts with a wrench. A visual check isn't enough—they can appear to be tight and secure even though they have been broken off.
2. Replace loose or damaged bolts in accordance with manufacturer's specifications; and always tighten bolts according to manufacturer's torque specifications.

Prevention Services, Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation Commission

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WHSCC
All Accidents are Preventable

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Check out the CCOHS website, www.ccohs.ca, or call 1 800 263-8466 for health and safety information.