Fatal 3 - TRANSPORT - Contractor falls from cab and injures his head

WHAT HAPPENED

A contract haulage driver parked on site in preparation for loading of material. On exiting his vehicle cab, he misjudged his footing and missed the bottom step. He fell, striking his head, right elbow and lower back on the concrete paving. He received first aid treatment on site and his condition was monitored. He reported feeling dizzy and sick and therefore the Emergency Services were called. An ambulance arrived and the driver was taken to hospital for assessment, accompanied by the Plant Manager. He was released later in the day having had stitches to close his head wound.





KEY FINDINGS



Safe systems / Competence - It is accepted practice at the site for drivers to exit their vehicles and change into their Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in the loading bay on the basis it is a safer than on the public road; however, this practice has not been considered within the site's Risk Assessment. The driver had received an induction and his training records include safe access and egress from vehicle cabs.

Vehicle - The driver was familiar with the cab step configuration, it being his regular vehicle.

PPE - Although the driver was wearing boots they were not fastened correctly (see photo).

Housekeeping - Housekeeping in the area was exceptional, with steps / curbs clearly highlighted.

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

HOW COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED

- Eliminate / reduce the need for drivers to get out of their cabs.
- Driver concentration, ensure 3 points of contact are maintained when getting in / out of vehicles.
- Footwear should be in good condition and worn correctly, laces fully tied.

KEY REVIEW POINTS

- Assess if we can reduce the need for drivers to get out of their cabs through systems and engineering improvements.
- Review Risk Assessments and Safe Systems of Work (SSOW) relating to drivers' PPE and ensure all drivers are aware of the PPE requirements.
- Confirm all drivers receive and understand the requirements of updated SSOW.

LOCATION:	**QUARRY**	**ALERT STATUS:**	**Normal**
ACTIVITY:	**ACCESS & EGRESS & WORKING AT HEIGHT**	**DATE ISSUED:**	**20/03/2024 14:28:06**
SUB ACTIVITY:	**N/A**	**INCIDENT No:**	**03702**