

Forest Industry Safety Alert

CLOSE CALL: Crew truck rolls while worker underneath conducting inspection

Location: Garrison Forest Service Road (near Princeton, BC)

Date: August 5, 2014

Details of Close Call / Serious Incident: A crew truck was leaking transmission fluid, so a worker went under the vehicle to tighten the lines the repair shop had just installed.

Somehow the truck's automatic transmission slipped out of "Park" and rolled back, pinning the worker's left elbow to the ground and bending his wrist back. Fortunately, nearby co-workers acted quickly to free the trapped individual from under the vehicle.

A subsequent return visit to the repair shop determined the shift cable had stretched and was not functioning as intended.

Learnings and Suggestions:

- Do not rely on automatic transmissions being in Park or manual transmissions parking brakes being applied, to keep vehicle stationary
- Block and/or chock the wheels when servicing a vehicle!
- Working with 2 or more people present helped prevent this incident from being potentially more serious

For more information on this submitted alert: Tom at Lusted Logging Ltd.

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