



Zero Fatalities
Zero Lost Time
Zero Road/Speed Incidents
Zero Environmental Incidents
Zero Tolerance of Unsafe Behaviours & Practices



PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 8

Date: 07 March 2019	Focus Group: Tree Fellers
Topic: Slip, Trip, Fall – Contact Injury	Issued by: Nic Steens

Incident: A Level 4 (Safetree Certified) tree feller was walking down a steep face when he slipped and started sliding. Throwing his chainsaw away it rolled down the hill and then back into his path. As he put out his hand to break his fall, his palm came into contact with the chainsaw’s [felling spikes](#).

Injury Details: The operator sustained a puncture wound to the palm of his hand requiring several stitches and light duties – MTI.

Risk Awareness: Slips, trips and falls are a common hazard for manual tree fellers. While spiked boots and careful positioning of the feet reduces the danger, slipping over and injuring oneself is an ever-present risk. Slipping over, a tree feller is at risk from contact with the chainsaw and any [sharp tools that are poorly stowed](#).

Safe Behaviour: Take time to plan your route. Avoid walking directly downhill by sidling the hill where possible. Wear spiked boots and ensure the spikes are replaced when worn out. Carry equipment safely to ensure balance is maintained and won’t compromise the ability to stop in a fall or slide. Wear [cut/puncture resistant gloves](#).

For Site Manager use (print this document and then complete):

This safety alert is relevant to my site? Yes or No (circle one)

If yes, complete the following actions:

- 1. This safety alert has been discussed with employees and operators
- 2. I have placed this safety alert on the site notice board or in the safety file

Site Manager: _____ **Date:** / /

(signature)