



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



PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 12

Date: 09 April 2019	Focus Group: Breaker-outs
Topic: Poor Communication	Issued by: Nic Steens

Incident: A breaker-out was pulling the rope and strop from the back of the bulldozer towards the stems. His workmate gave the call to the bulldozer operator to stop releasing the rope, however, the breaker-out didn't hear the call and continued dragging on the rope. The rope suddenly went taut and the breaker-out, losing his balance, fell into the creek, landing on his side across a stem.

Injury Details: The breaker-out was able to walk out to the crew container and then was driven to the local hospital for a check-up. He sustained bruising to his ribs – LTI.

Risk Awareness: Research studies tell us that 70% of workplace mistakes are a result of poor communication.

Safe Behaviour: There are a range of things we can do to improve communications making work run smoothly and safely e.g.

- (1) Explain work goals and priorities clearly and listen to others carefully,
- (2) Ask questions – to both understand and ensure that others understand you,
- (3) Think things through keeping an open mind and not jumping to conclusions, and
- (4) Allow the time needed (to communicate) and don't lose your patience.

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: _____
(signature)

Date: / /