

# PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 56

<b>Date:</b> May 2023	<b>Focus Group:</b> Haulers and Mobile Plant Owners
<b>Topic:</b> Guarding; Fall From Height	<b>Issued by:</b> Craig Fisher

**Background and Incidents:** The BPG [Safe Use of Machinery](#) provides engineering and isolation controls for guarding against the risk of entrapment and severing of fingers and limbs etc. Similarly, the BPG for [Working at Height in NZ](#) outlines practicable steps to take to prevent harm when working at height. WorkSafe NZ (WSNZ) has published these guides for all types of situations, plant and equipment in NZ, however, they do have an application in forestry – most obviously log haulers and mobile plant. Our managers and contractors should be aware that WSNZ views ‘guarding’ and ‘fall from height’ as priority areas and are actively inspecting for compliance, issuing Improvement Notices, and taking [prosecutions](#) for failures.

**Injury Details:** Advice only – various entrapments, falls from height (including fatalities).

**Risk Awareness:** Workers may be injured/killed by unguarded plant or falls from height.

**Safe Behaviours:** To protect employees from serious harm, Managers can:

- Obtain/read the BPGs (linked above) and seek advice if any matter remains unclear
- Ensure manufacturer guarding and restraints are in place and functioning correctly
- Apply controls and conduct inspections – see [Repair and Maintenance Mobile Plant](#)
- Apply innovations e.g., lagged hauler drums help to remove workers from risk areas
- Engage a CPEng (Engineer) e.g., [MainMech](#) to advise on your machine requirements.

**NOTE:** An industry-focused BPG for Hauler Guarding is due in July 2023.

**For Site Manager:**

Print and complete the following:

1. Discuss with employees/operators:
2. Place on-site notice board or in file:

**Site Manager:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** / /  
(initials)

