



BCFSC

SAFETY ALERT

Industrial Worksite Vehicle Incident

Location: Kamloops, BC

Date of Occurrence: October 15, 2021

Description of Event: A contract heavy duty mechanic was struck by his own service vehicle and was fatally injured. A safety alert shared with BCFSC indicated he was inspecting a piece of mobile equipment when his own service vehicle rolled forward striking him. He later succumbed to his injuries in hospital.

Hazard Concern: Personal injury/fatality as a result of an inadequately secured vehicle(s).

BCFSC Recommendations for Working Around Heavy Equipment and Vehicles

- Vehicles must be secured properly including parking in a level location where possible, automatic transmissions put into park, and emergency brake engaged. Use secondary methods to secure vehicles, like wheel chocks or blocking, which will prevent the vehicle from moving if brakes or other equipment fails.
- Vehicles with standard transmissions left in neutral rely even more on the emergency brake to keep them in place. Use wheel chocks and test emergency brakes regularly to make sure they work properly.
- Fatigue and distraction can cause routine tasks to become high-risk activities. When tired or preoccupied, steps may be missed and hazards can be overlooked or not understood. Recognize when you or your coworkers are fatigued or distracted and take steps to support good decision-making.
- Ensure that all workers wear high-vis personal protective equipment (PPE) while working around mobile equipment.
- If contractors are on the worksite, ensure that there is a process to ensure they are oriented and understand to the worksite safety requirements.



BC Forest Safety

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