



INDUSTRY

# SAFETY ALERT

## Loose tire chain disconnects brake line

**Location:** Winter Resource Roads

**Details of the Hazard / Close Call / Serious Incident:** A worker had parked his truck at the top of a hill on a well-used but snow-covered road in the morning. Upon returning to his truck at the end of the day, the road had become very icy – it was difficult to walk on the road.

The worker installed tire chains on the rear tires to improve traction on the icy descent. Chains were installed, the truck was pulled ahead, and the chains were re-tightened.

At the bottom of the hill the worker could feel the brakes were not functioning properly. He pulled over, inspected the vehicle, and noticed the right chain had become loose and pulled the brake line off.

### Recommended Preventative Actions, Awareness, Learnings, and Suggestions:

- Review procedures for mounting and tensioning tire chains
- Use tire chain bungees on the outside of the wheel to maintain tension
- Be aware of potential for road conditions to change during the day and park the truck in an area that chains are not needed. Use snowmobiles instead of driving further in the truck.

**For more information:** Matt Scott, Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd. (250) 768-5131

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