

# SAFETY ALERT

## DRIVER CUTS LEG ON BARRIER



### DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT

A tipper driver delivering to a Cemex site walked into the end of an Armco barrier, resulting in a cut to his thigh which required 3 stitches.

The discharge hopper capacity is 10 tonne, therefore the delivery per vehicle is made up of several tips. Unfortunately, because the hopper is below ground, the level of material in the hopper could not be seen in the vehicle's rear camera; therefore, the driver needed to get out and check the level. When the driver was returning to the vehicle cab, for some reason, he deviated off the usual route and walked into the end of the barrier which protects the control panel for the transverse conveyor.

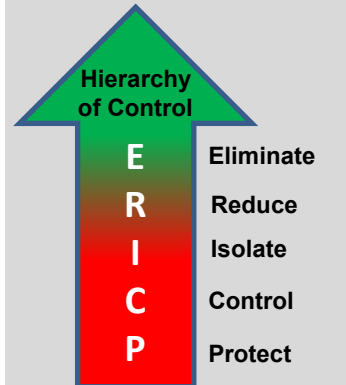
The Driver was taken to the local hospital where they treated the wound and applied 3 stitches. Thankfully, he was able to return to work later in the day.

### HOW COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED

- Ideally, by eliminating the need for drivers to get out of their cabs; however, not all tipper tailgates are automatic, drivers must check fill levels where the capacity of ground hoppers are restricted, and they need to clean their tailgates after tipping before going back onto the highway.
- The exposed end of the Armco barrier was not protected.
- The driver didn't carry out a 'Take 5' assessment before delivering. If he had, he may have noticed the barrier and taken extra care around this area and highlighted the hazard via a Near Miss / Hazard Alert card.

### KEY REVIEW POINTS

- Wherever possible, eliminate the need for driver / pedestrian movement on sites.
- Risk assess pedestrian areas for hazards such as slips, trips and falls, sharp edges, and unprotected pedestrian areas.
- Review pedestrian barriers to ensure there are no exposed sharp edges, for example by using end caps on Armco barriers.



### Personal Protective Equipment

Always wear the correct PPE.

### Tools and Equipment

Use the right, well maintained, tools/ equipment for the job. Never make do.

### Look after yourself and each other

Don't let anyone act unsafely, always stop unsafe practices.



The wound and after treatment



The Armco barrier before and after alterations



Typical Armco barrier end cap



STOP THINK ACT