

Safety Alert

Event Number: 40511

Event Date: 02 / June / 2020

Classification: Hiab Truck Air Brake Failure

Internal Distribution Only

Pneumatic Air brake Failure

Description of Event:

An Electrix staff member whilst repositioning a truck on a relatively flat but muddy worksite, realised that the rear wheels were chocked. They pulled the parking handbrake on and left the vehicle idling whilst he removed the chocks. The staff member removed the right-hand side chock, and as he went around the vehicle to remove the left-hand side chock the vehicle started to move. The vehicle travelled down the worksite and came to a stop by stumps and fallen logs from a recently logged area.

Contributing Factors:

On further investigation, it was found the parking brake internal valve was sticky. Some components were rusty suggesting water in the air system causing the air brake system to fail.



Actions to Prevent Reoccurrence:

- All servicing to an 'hours-based system' for trucks that conduct high static running rather than kilometres travelled and speedo readings.
- Hino C service recommendations: at a maximum of 90,000km, 1,500 hours or 12 Months whatever comes first.

Lessons Learnt:

- If you are leaving a vehicle unattended, even if only for a short period, remember to turn the engine off, put the handbrake on and leave it in gear.
- Wheel chocks must be used when vehicles are parked or left unattended at a worksite, where there is a risk the vehicle could inadvertently roll uncontrolled. Wheel chocks must be placed on the downhill side of the vehicle, plant or trailer.
- If for any reason a vehicle does start to move, do not try to stop it or re-enter it while it is moving.

For further information please contact: Ned Trifkovic, Senior HSE Advisor

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