



## *Safety Advice 31-2014 (NZ) (Apr)*

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On April 11 2014, a line worker undertaking ladder work fell from a pole at a rural site on the Network Tasman network. The lineman was in the process of replacing cross-arms at the pole site. At the time of the fall, he had unclipped his pole harness system in order to reposition himself. During this repositioning process, he slipped, and fell approx. 8m to the ground, striking the ladder a number of times during the fall. There was no electrical involvement in the incident. The lineman suffered two fractured vertebrae but is expected to make a full recovery.

Subsequent investigation of the incident highlighted that the line worker was not attached to the pole at the instant of the fall. Means of achieving continuous attachment for line workers are being investigated.”

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