

SAFETY ALERT

Cleaning truck trailers on site



"Sharing incident learnings across the grain industry"

"A vision of Zero Harm across the grain industry supply chain"

A recent incident where a driver was seriously injured whilst accessing their truck trailer to clean, highlights the need for safe practices while cleaning trailers that visit grain sites.

Whilst some sites will have a designated area for trailers to tip off residue or blow down the external areas of their truck, most sites do not have any approved areas or safe methods of work for drivers to access their trailers in order to clean.

Key messages

The risks associated with accessing the trailer to clean include:

- fall or slip whilst accessing the trailer
- fall or slip whilst in the trailer
- crushed by tailgate if accidentally dislodged

Whilst drivers may have:

- a ladder system to access the trailer,
- a door/hatch to access, or
- a locking mechanism to position the tailgate in the open position,

there are still inherent risks associated with this task, including the potential for serious injury whilst the driver is in the trailer due to the slipper nature of the trailer surface. This is a significant risk.

Where there is a need to clean the trailer, sites need to advise the driver that he / she must find a safe place to clean that is not on the grain site.

There are truck cleaning stations and drivers need to locate their nearest station in the areas in which they are operating. Grain site staff should be familiar with these and be able to advise drivers where available.

For further information please contact enquiry@gtsn.com.au
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