

Safety Alert



Chance makes his presence felt in Auckland

What happened?

An LPG delivery driver sustained injuries to his leg, torso and arm after being run over by his vehicle during a routine delivery in Auckland last week. The runaway vehicle rolled down an incline damaging a fence and pergola before coming to rest on a retaining wall.

How did it happen?

As the driver was parking the vehicle he received a call on his Radio Telephone (RT) and, as a result of the distraction, overlooked engaging the handbrake. As he got out of the vehicle it began to roll forward, catching his foot under the wheel of the vehicle, and knocking him over.



What did we learn?

Chance loves distractions, especially if they allow him to interfere with safety critical systems like handbrakes on delivery vehicles.

How can we improve?

We need to ensure the integrity of our safety systems so that there aren't any gaps for Chance to make his wicked way through. This includes things such as fitting our delivery vehicles with alarms that alert the driver when the handbrake needs to be engaged. We need to apply our 'Safe to Run' lens to all of our operations by asking ourselves three fundamental process safety questions:

1. Do we know what could go wrong?
2. Do we know what systems we have in place to prevent this from happening?
3. Are we getting the right information to tell us the systems are working?

Can you think of any Safety Critical Equipment that could be defeated by distraction in your workplace?

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Take 5! Stop. Check, Challenge, Change, Continue.

5 seconds, 5 minutes, 5 hours – however long it takes to do the job safely.

Contact