



Tree faller hit by falling leader then cut by own chainsaw



INCIDENT

A tree faller was injured when he was struck by a falling leader.

CIRCUMSTANCES

The leader was damaged and it fell, pinning the faller by the legs. The faller reached over to grab his idling chainsaw to cut himself out and accidentally activated the throttle as he dragged the chainsaw towards him.

INVESTIGATION

The tree being felled dislodged the leader, which in turn fell on to the tree faller. He lacerated his arm with the chainsaw while trying to cut himself free.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR ADVICE

Ensure that all overhead hazards created as a result of tree felling operations are indentified, isolated and eliminated prior to conducting work in that area.

Note: This material has been prepared using the best information available to the Department of Labour at the time of publication. Information may change over time and it may be necessary for you to obtain an update. This material is also only intended to provide general advice and does not constitute legal advice. You should make your own judgement about action you may need to take to ensure you have complied with your workplace health and safety obligations under the law.

