

CONTRACTOR SAFETY ALERT



REMOVAL OF LOAD RESTRAINTS

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Background

On 8 November, A truck driver was attempting to remove a strap from a load when it became stuck. The driver wrapped their hand around the two-inch webbing strap and exerted maximum force to free the strap. The truck driver injured their right hand that has resulted in a Lost Time Injury (LTI), as this was greater than 10 days it was WorkSafe notifiable.

Key points

- Driver was wearing required PPE.
- Driver was only 4 hours into their shift, so fatigue was not considered a contributing factor.
- Driver had completed induction, which included mentoring with an experienced driver to observe processes such as strapping/unstrapping loads.
- Safe Work Procedures must reference the process for applying and removing load restraint devices.
- The Load Restraint Guide 2018 is an important reference document. The guide documents safety principles when designing a load restraint system for your heavy vehicle. See the NHVR [web site](#) for further details.