

# SAFETY ALERT



## TITLE: HIGH POTENTIAL INCIDENT LOADING OF LOGS

**Number: 82**

### Background

On 15 February, an FPC contractor truck driver was observed standing within the exclusion zone whilst the truck was being loaded. This is the second related incident within a fortnight. On 2 February another FPC contractor truck driver was observed strapping the load whilst the truck was being loaded.

These incidents had the potential to cause serious injury if a log was to fall/roll/slide or fracture under tension, fortunately in both cases no injuries were sustained.

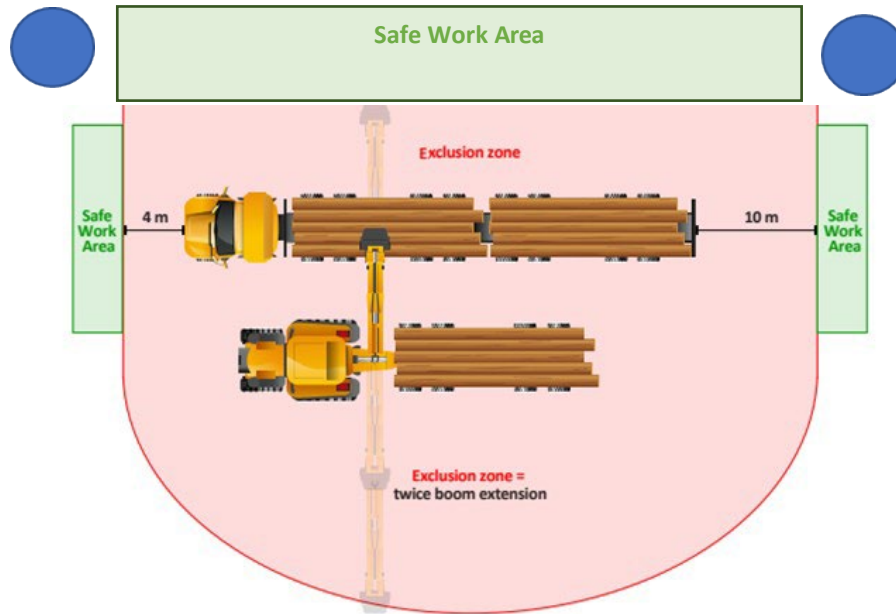
### Key points

- The truck driver was standing in the exclusion zone.
- The loader operator and truck driver have a dual responsibility to ensure that there are no workers within the exclusion zone (high-risk area) during loading/unloading.
- Always follow Safe Operating Procedures for truck loading/unloading.
- Never become complacent, loading/unloading is a high-risk activity, don't take shortcuts this could cost more than lost time.
- Designated safe work areas must be communicated to all workers onsite.
- The recommended position for the truck driver during loading is at a 45° angle from the trailer. The driver is permitted to move along the back "safe work area" from one zone to the other once the first trailer has been loaded and the log grab or grapple is grounded or positioned in the bunk. The driver should remain stationary whilst machinery is in operation and should always be in the loaders line of sight.
- The designated safe work area for the driver should be agreed prior to commencing loading/unloading. The truck driver should be a minimum of 4

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METERS in front of the truck or 10 METERS from the rear or 10 METERS from the opposite side to the side being loaded.



**NO PERSON** is permitted to enter the exclusion zone unless they have received verbal confirmation from the loader operator that it is safe to do so.

Person must wait for the log grab or grapple to be grounded before moving.

Loading must not recommence until person is back in the safe load area

Indicates safe viewing area for driver to observe trailer being loaded. This area should be a machinery “no go” zone.