Fatal 1 - Lorry driver near miss - Head stuck under tipper body

WHAT HAPPENED

During a routine delivery of asphalt to a customer, a lorry driver experienced a terrifying situation where he was extremely lucky to escape with nothing more than dented pride.

The driver was working on a customer site while a surfacing gang hand laid asphalt from the back of the vehicle. When the laying had been completed and the body was empty, the driver proceeded to lower the body from full tip.

During the lowering exercise (which was quite slow due to the body being empty) the driver exited the lorry cab to walk around the front of the lorry to the kerbside toolbox located under the body on the chassis to retrieve a paint scraper for tailboard cleaning.

The lorry body design was such that an aluminium skirt around the bottom of the body sat approximately 6" from the side safety impact rail when the body was lowered.

As per the photo, when the driver leaned over the

side rail to retrieve the scraper the body slowly came down and trapped him between the two surfaces and resulted in being unable to get his head out.

The surfacing gang had to operate the lorry tipping gear to allow the driver to become free.



Driver's head trapped

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

A full investigation was completed in conjunction with the haulage company and the following actions taken

The haulage company re-trained ALL drivers in relation to their company handbook - in particular, tipping procedures.

The haulage company discussed the incident with the vehicle manufacturer to modify the locations / designs of skirts, toolboxes, controls, etc.

Internal communications were made around all hauliers within the company.

The driver was offered counselling

LOCATION:	**CONSTRUCTION/DELIVERY SITE**	**ALERT STATUS:**	**Normal**
ACTIVITY:	**TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS / DELIVERY**	**DATE ISSUED:**	**08/07/2021 14:23:37**
SUB ACTIVITY:	**PRODUCT DELIVERY**	**INCIDENT No:**	**03595**