



# INCIDENT ALERT



## General Information

Date of Incident	7.01.2025
Type of Incident	Vacuum Loading
<b>About the Person</b>	
Occupation of Person	Operator
Experience of Person	5 years
HPWJ/Vac Training Level	Vacuum Loading Training & Internal VOC on Vacuum Equipment
Other Training	Working at Heights, Confined Space, Heavy Vehicle Licence
No. of Hours Completed (On shift that day)	7
<b>About the Incident</b>	
Time of incident	3.30pm
Result of Injury/Damage	Neck Strain
Lost Days	0
Description of Incident	The operator placed his head between the vacuum debris door and the interceptor as the door was activated to close
What Equipment Category	Vacuum Loading
Equipment Used	Dry Vacuum Loader
What Was Person Doing	Inspecting the Vacuum Loading interceptor after cleaning
What happened unexpectedly	<p>The Vacuum Team had dumped a load of product and had then proceeded to the washbay to clean the interceptor. After hosing out the interceptor they both inspected it and agreed it was clean. The offsider proceeded to the front control panel to lower the body and close the rear door.</p> <p>During the lowering and closing process the operator has left the control panel and line of sight of the offsider and proceeded to the opposite rear side of the truck. He placed his head between the door for another inspection of the interceptor when the door was activated to close. The door came into contact with his head and neck and he yelled out stop to the offsider. The offsider stopped closing the door and reopened it before any significant crush injuries occurred.</p>

<b>Corrective Action</b>	
<b>What Immediate Action</b>	Incident reported internally and to the client and regulator
<b>Preventative Action</b>	
<b>Elimination</b>	If the Vacuum Loader is fitted with a rear control panel always use the rear control panel. Maintain line of sight between team members at all times. If line of sight is not maintained <b>STOP</b> operations immediately
<b>Substitution</b>	
<b>Isolation or barriers</b>	Use the door prop for any access required between the vacuum loaders interceptor door and the interceptor
<b>Engineering</b>	If the unit is fitted with a remote control - position yourself at the rear of the unit to enable clear vision of the door closing functions
<b>Administration</b>	Undertake a toolbox meeting with all vacuum loading operators and share this alert
<b>PPE</b>	
<b>LEARNINGS</b>	
<p>Maintain line of sight with team members during any hydraulic movements of vacuum loading components. If line of sight is lost - <b>Stop Operations Immediately</b></p> <p><b>Establish and maintain good communications between operators at all times.</b></p> <p>Use rear controls or a remote control (if available) and position yourself where you can view all hydraulic operations of the vacuum loader.</p>	