

## Operator sustains serious injury in fall from bulldozer



*Arrow indicates the platform the operator fell from*

### Details of incident

A bulldozer operator climbed out of the cab of a D9 bulldozer to stretch his legs. While he was standing on the platform, he slipped and fell forward onto the frame of the dozer. He fractured his femur (thigh bone) and required hospitalisation and surgery.

### Contributing factors

An investigation into the incident found that the bulldozer platform, steps and handgrips were in good order and the environmental conditions were normal. The operator apparently became distracted by watching a truck tipping on the pad and lost his footing.

## Recommendations

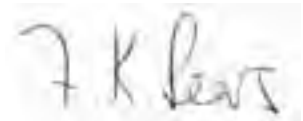
- Remember the risks of falling from large mobile machinery.
- Climb down onto the ground to stretch, rather than stretching up on the platform.
- Remember to use three points of contact when climbing on and off mobile machinery.

If you would like further information contact Workplace Standards Tasmania on:  
Telephone: **1300 366 322** (inside Tasmania) or (03) 6233 7657 (outside Tasmania)

Fax: (03) 6233 8338

Email: [wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au)

Internet: [www.wst.tas.gov.au](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au)



Fred Sears  
Director of Major Infrastructure  
Chief Inspector of Mines  
Workplace Standards Tasmania  
1 July 2009