

Safety, Health and Wellbeing



SAFETY ALERT No. 145 **Uncontrolled Vehicle Movement**

Background

On 12 December 2019, an unmanned contractor vehicle rolled down the roadway towards a Hunter Water jobsite. At the time of the incident, the vehicle had been parked for over an hour without moving. At the time of the incident the driver stated the vehicle was left in gear, handbrake on and wheels were turned into the kerb. Investigations after the incident confirmed this and subsequent mechanical inspection confirmed that the handbrake was operational.



While the exact cause of the incident is still unclear, it is believed that the following were contributing factors:

- Handbrake may not have been fully engaged
- Wheels may not have been turned fully into the kerb
- Handbrake on the vehicle trailer was not applied
- No wheel chocks were available

Control Measures

While the exact cause of this incident may not be clear, there are still a few things we can learn:

1. Ensure you always complete your pre-start checks on your vehicle, and report any concerns.
2. When parking your vehicle, assess the conditions and apply the appropriate control measures, Examples of controls include handbrake on, vehicle in gear, wheels turned into the curb, apply wheel chocks where appropriate.

At Hunter Water we are committed to a continuous improvement culture where no one is injured as a result of their work.

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