

PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 48

Date: September 2022	Focus Group: ATV/4WD Operators/Drivers
Topic: Un-metalled Slippery Tracks	Issued by: Nic Steens

Background and Incident: While considerable work had been undertaken to upgrade tracks others were not considered 'all weather' use. A crew foreman was driving a Suzuki Escudo down one of the later to deliver treestocks to planters. It had been raining for 30 minutes and the vehicle slid off the track and rolled before landing on its wheels.

Injury Details: The foreman sustained an injury to his left wrist requiring hospitalisation and two surgeries.

Risk Awareness: ATV/4WD vehicle use exposes operators to a (regulated) 'particular risk' namely **a falling (or rolling) object**. With a mass up to 1000kg the particular risk is a loss of control leading to a rollover where the ATV/4WD could fall/roll onto and crush the operator and/or passenger(s). Operating 4WD vehicles on steep wet tracks (this one was 16°) is a situation giving rise to harm from this risk.

Safe Behaviours: Particular risks require PCBU's to follow a hierarchy of controls as prescribed by the [GRWM Regulations](#) – that's why we have the [Safe Op](#) and why we expect its careful implementation, without exception! The 3 key elements of it are:

- Ensure operators are trained to standards and [audited](#),
- Complete track assessments – including use of this [flowchart](#), and
- Make sure the ATV/4WD is fit for purpose – using the inspection [checklist](#).

For Site Manager:

Print and complete the following:

1. Discuss with employees/operators:
2. Place on site notice board or in file:

Site Manager: _____ **Date:** / /
(initials)

