PF Olsen Toolbox Safety Alert 26

Date: 02 June 2020
Focus Group: ATV Owners, Forest Managers, Operators.
Topic: Risk Management
Issued by: Nic Steens

Background and Incident: An ATV operator was ferrying tree-stocks to planters. He rode off the formed track, down a spur and unloaded. He then proceeded back uphill toward the track, sidling around the hill instead of taking the same line as in the descent. On approach to the formed track the contour steepened. This caused the ATV to flip and roll approximately 100 m down slope, coming to rest in a swamp.

Injury Details: No injuries, the operator was able to step off the ATV as it rolled.

Risk Awareness: ATV operation is a critical risk activity causing a disproportionate number of fatalities in primary industry each year. With a mass up to 1000kg the particular risk is a ‘loss of control’ leading to a rollover where the ATV could fall onto and crush the operator and/or passenger(s).

Safe Behaviours: ATV owners, forest managers (the PCBU’s) and operators must be fully conversant with the Safe Op – All Terrain Vehicles (ATV). This instruction outlines risk management controls along with PPE, CPD¹, training and track assessment non-negotiables. The Safe Op must be reviewed by the PCBU’s before using ATV(s) with aspects reviewed daily (thereafter) to ensure any site changes are taken into account.

¹ ATV shall be fitted with a professionally designed and manufactured Crush Protection Device (CPD).

For Site Manager use (print this document and then complete):

This safety alert is relevant to my site? Yes or No (circle one). If yes, complete the following actions:

1. This safety alert has been discussed with employees and operators ☐
2. I have placed this safety alert on the site notice board or in the safety file ☐

Site Manager: ___________________________ Date: / /