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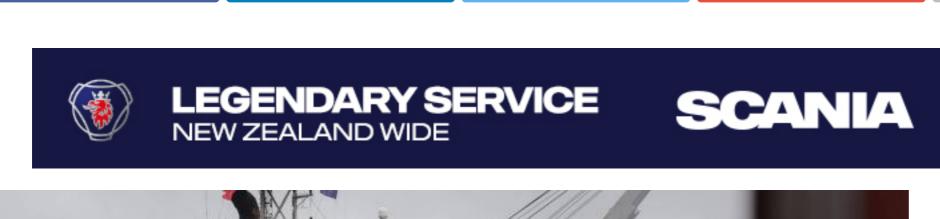
Ports of Auckland stevedore killed in workplace incident

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A worker has died at the Ports of Auckland following a fall from height during the loading and unloading of freight on a Singaporean flagged ship.

Emergency services were called to the scene about 9:25am this morning with St John ambulances and Fire and Emergency New Zealand.

The incident involved a stevedore employed by Wallace Investments.

A company spokesman said while it was too early to know what had happened, the employee died in "a fall from height".

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"It is with deep sadness that we inform you today of the death of one of our staff members.

"The company and staff are devastated by today's incident and our immediate thoughts are with family and friends of the deceased.

"The company will be undertaking its own investigation into the incident and will fully cooperate with Maritime NZ and their investigation."

Ports of Auckland spokesperson Julie Wagener says everyone at the port is "extremely saddened".

"This is tragic news and a shock to us all. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family, friends and colleagues of the person involved. Work on this vessel stopped immediately and an official investigation is underway."

Wallace Investments is one several of independent stevedoring companies which work at the port on behalf of shipping companies.

principle PCBU, a responsibility that drives all our decisions and actions.

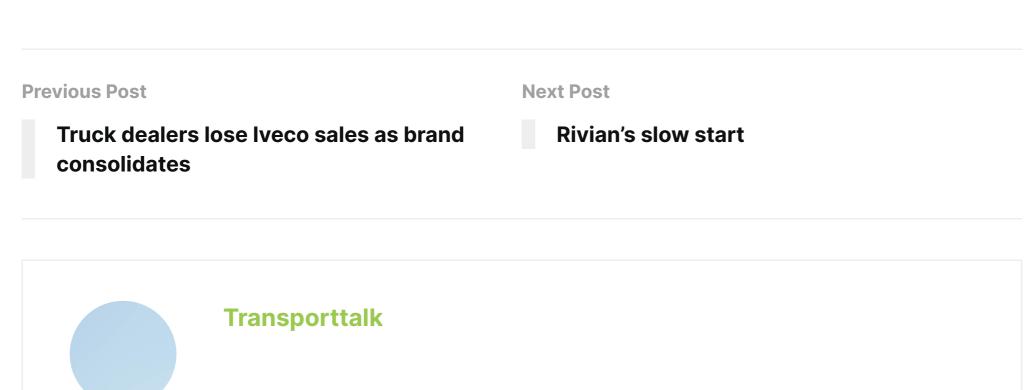
"Ports of Auckland has the ultimate responsibility for everyone who comes onto the port site as the

support the implementation of any recommended corrective actions," Wagener says. Maritime Union of New Zealand national secretary Craig Harrison says the tragedy reinforces the

"We will support Wallace Investments and Maritime New Zealand in their investigations and will

dangers faced by port workers everyday throughout New Zealand.

The union is calling for a national inquiry into port safety following a number of deaths and injuries in New Zealand ports in recent years.





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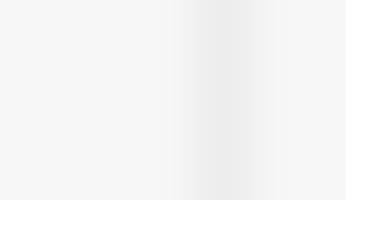


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