

Ports of Auckland worker dies in hospital from injuries

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A man suffered critical injuries after a straddle carrier he was operating overturned at Ports of Auckland.

A man has died after being injured when a straddle carrier he was operating overturned at Ports of Auckland.

The man [suffered critical injuries](#) after the straddle carrier turned onto its side on August 27.

He was taken to Auckland City Hospital, but a union representative said the young man died from his injuries on September 3.

International Transport Federation dockers' section chair Paddy Crumlin said deaths at ports are becoming a global epidemic.

"Every worker deserves to return home safely at the end of their shift. "Our thoughts are with the family of this young man, his workmates, friends and our comrades at MUNZ [Maritime Union of NZ]."

The death came after union representatives had called on Maritime New Zealand for great regulations and improved safety standards on New Zealand's waterfront, he said.

"We know that ports are among the most dangerous workplaces in the world but every workplace death is preventable."

MUNZ spokesman Keith Manch said they had been campaigning for enforceable regulations and improved safety standards on New Zealand's waterfront, following three deaths in New Zealand in 2017.

Worksafe NZ earlier confirmed they were investigating the incident.

Straddle carriers are the machines which haul shipping containers around on the wharves.

The country's largest port processed over 580,000 containers in 2017 and an average of about 35 containers every hour.

In 2016, POAL announced plans to introduce automated straddle carriers by 2019.

It received two automated straddle carriers earlier this year.

Ports of Auckland is New Zealand's largest container port and is owned by Auckland Council.

