

Alert



Outline the Scene	Incident	260 kg Concrete Rib Fell from Level 1 Steel Beam onto Ground Floor
	Subject	Lifesaving rule: All Exclusion zones must be obeyed
	Critical Risk Type	CR06 Objects falling from height.
	Incident Date	18 th February 2026
	Radar Reference	INCID - 0098130
	Business Unit	Fletcher Living Canterbury

What happened?



During the installation of a 260 kg concrete rib on Level 1, the rib fell from a temporary support on a steel beam to the ground.

The work was carried out under a full exclusion zone with a crane, and a pre-start briefing had been conducted by the site manager.

A tradesperson was adjusting the rib using a platform ladder and leverage bar. While doing so, they over-exerted, causing the concrete rib hanger to dislodge from the supporting floor steel beam.

Outcome:

- No injuries occurred, thanks to a robust exclusion zone.
- The contractor followed company safe work procedures: only one person works in a rib at a time, and all work was performed leveraging the rib away from themselves.

The contractor immediately stopped work and reported the incident to their supervisor, who then notified the site team.

The following day, the PCBU spoke at a pre-planned, site-wide exclusion zone workshop, reinforcing that **robust exclusion zones save lives**.



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We believe all injuries are preventable, here are some questions to help us learn



1. Risk Awareness: Were all hazards clearly identified before starting the task?
2. Work Method: Was the task performed in a way that minimised physical strain and exposure to risk?
3. Engineering Controls: Could stoppers, blocks, or brackets have been used to prevent misalignment or slipping?
4. Communication: Were all team members clear on the work sequence and potential hazards?
5. Procedures & Training: Are there improvements to instructions, tools, or training that could reduce the chance of a similar incident?

Key Takeaway:

Never work under or beside unfixed heavy objects whilst they are being moved/adjusted.

Robust exclusion zones, adherence to procedures, and clear communication of risks saves lives.

Always apply these principles - every day.

For more information contact:

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