



## Safety Notification – Water and Silt Damaged Vehicles

<b>Safety Notification:</b>	<b>Water and Silt Damaged vehicles</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> March 2023</b>
<b>Released</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> March 2023 to Industry</b>
<b>Document Owner</b>	<b>Turners NZ</b>
<b>Potential Risks</b>	<b>Contamination leading to Occupational Health Risk</b>

Given recent events in New Zealand. Large amounts of vehicles are being written off by Insurers. There are foreseeable hazards. Accordingly, Turners have put together this safety guideline.

Turners takes safety seriously. We wish to keep informed on the current state of knowledge and best practice guidelines.

<b>Risks</b>	<b>Practicable Controls</b>
With an excess of moisture build up in vehicles. There is the potential for growth of mould within the vehicle as a result of high humidity, combined with damp or wet environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not enter or be exposed to the interior of vehicles without precautions in place.</li> <li>Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) should be worn to provide a control relative to potential airborne contaminate.</li> <li>It is our recommendation that this RPE should be a minimum of P2/N95 classification</li> </ul>
<p>There is a potential occupational risk with large amounts of silt contamination in vehicles. The level of contamination within this medium is largely unknown.</p> <p>There is a potential risk as silt dries out.</p> <p>With it dry and containing unknown contaminants. There is the potential for contaminates becoming airborne. This poses a risk to human health.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treat all silt as potentially contaminated.</li> <li>Limit skin contact via the use of coveralls, gloves appropriate waterproof footwear.</li> <li>Utilise safety eye wear at all times.</li> <li>Whilst the silt is wet, potential airborne contaminants are bound.</li> <li>Should the silt dry out, utilise RPE as above.</li> </ul>

**Please do not assume that the water/silt is not contaminated. Given the large-scale environmental impact, until otherwise proven, you should treat each vehicle as contaminated and apply the appropriate controls accordingly.**

This safety notification serves as a guide only. Each person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) should take all practicable steps to keep their people safe.

Turners wish to do our bit to keep people safe and well, when dealing with potentially contaminated vehicles.

The Turners Team.