

Worker Pinned in Side-by-Side Rollover

Incident Date: April 8, 2024 / Location: North of Zama City, AB / Industry: Mobile Equipment



AI Teaching Illustration. Conceptual rollover scene showing the ground-level crush zone at the roll cage. Vehicle, terrain and final position are not an exact reconstruction.

What Happened

Two N'Deh workers were returning from a supply delivery north of Zama City. Their side-by-side encountered a marshy depression, contacted a snow berm and tipped over. Neither wore a seat belt; buckled belts bypassed the vehicle's unbelted speed limiter.

Both workers were ejected. The operator was pinned beneath the upper rollover-protection bar. The injured passenger could not lift the vehicle and became disoriented in darkness while seeking help. There was no reliable cell signal. The operator was found deceased the next day; rescuers later located the passenger.

Why This Became Fatal

OHS found the speed was unsuitable for the terrain. **Unworn seat belts allowed ejection; bypassing the limiter removed a safety control.** The operator was pinned outside the protective structure. The remote location and lack of reliable communication complicated getting help.

NEVER FORGET.

LET THEIR STORY PREVENT RECURRENCE.

What Safe Looks Like

Use restraints correctly and plan for terrain, communication and rescue.



1 Use Every Restraint

Wear belts and helmets; secure required nets. Never bypass controls.

2 Read the Terrain

Match speed to conditions. Stop and assess uncertain ground.

3 Plan for Help

Verify reliable communication, check-ins and remote rescue arrangements.

AI Teaching Illustration. Vehicle stopped before uncertain terrain. A communication device requires verified coverage and a response plan. **LSR links:** Driving / Bypassing Safety Controls.

Investigation Outcome

No charges were laid after OHS reviewed enforcement on March 26, 2025. N'Deh arranged ATV/UTV training, created a job hazard analysis and reviewed operating procedures. GPS installation and research into reliable remote communications were reported as work in progress, not confirmed complete. The summary reports no separate supervisor penalty.

Talk It Through with Your Crew

- 1 Where do we use off-road vehicles beyond reliable cell service?
- 2 Are belts, helmets, nets and other required safety devices used correctly?
- 3 What is our plan for changing terrain, missed check-ins and rescue?
- 4 Would you stop or refuse a trip if restraints or communication were unsafe?

SAFETY COMES FIRST.

Your Right to Refuse – Alberta. You may refuse work you reasonably believe presents an undue hazard: a serious and immediate threat. Promptly report the refusal and reasons to your employer or supervisor. They must investigate. Contact Alberta OHS if unresolved. Take reasonable care not to endanger others. You are protected from reprisal.

Sources: [Alberta OHS investigation OHS-305257](#), pp. 2-8; summary completed 13 January 2026. [Alberta refusal guidance](#). Prepared October 19, 2026. LSR links are learning associations, not findings of a breach. Original content © 2026 100% Safety Inc.

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