



Media Release

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Motorway rock throwers must be stopped

Rocks being hurled from motorway overbridges are endangering the lives of truck drivers and other motorists and action must be taken to stop it, says Road Transport Forum Chief Executive Ken Shirley.

“Members have reported through our associations an increase in rock throwing incidents and two trucks from the same company have had windscreens broken recently at Mangatawhiri and on the Kapiti Expressway.”

Just this morning a taxi in Auckland had its windscreen smashed by a rock thrown from an overbridge. The rock also hit the driver.

“Unfortunately, this is not a new issue or is the public outrage an overreaction. In 2005 a driver was killed when struck by concrete thrown from an overbridge on the Southern Motorway in Auckland.”

“While nobody wants to see cages around motorway overbridges all options must be considered,” says Shirley. “It is only a matter of time until somebody else is killed.”

“Understandably drivers are becoming increasingly nervous about taking these routes at night. Authorities must take a pretty hard line on this kind of delinquency.”

“The Road Transport Forum and its associations are keen to work with NZTA, the Police and local councils on finding an appropriate solution,” says Shirley.

Contact:

Ken Shirley

Phone: 04 472 3877

Mob: 021 570 877