



DRIVER TRAPPED: Rescue crews work painstakingly to free a truck driver trapped by his legs in his overturned cab.

PHOTO: CHRIS ISON CI12/1109/6

Teams rescue trapped driver

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FOR three hours rescue workers toiled to free a driver from the mangled wreck of his truck.

The driver was trapped by his legs in the cab after the vehicle overturned yesterday morning on the Port Alma Road at Bajool, south of Rockhampton.

Once free, the man was airlifted immediately to hospital in Rockhampton where he was treated for severe injuries.

According to the Department of Emergency Services, he suffered serious leg injuries.

The drama unfolded after the truck, which



IN FLIGHT: As soon as the driver was free he was airlifted to hospital by the RACQ Capricorn Helicopter Rescue Service.

was hauling salt, failed to negotiate a bend just after 10.30am.

The rig landed on its roof and when fire and ambulance crews arrived he was conscious but unable to move.

A spokeswoman said the driver, who is in his 40s, was in extreme pain and the rescue

PHOTO: CHRIS ISON CI12/1109/16

operation was a delicate one.

Attempts to reach the driver were hampered by the fact the truck had landed in a deep ditch.

"The aim was to work slowly but surely to free him without placing him in further danger or causing him

further pain.

"It was a very delicate situation and that is why it took so long," she said.

Two fire crews from Rockhampton, one of which specialises in road accident extractions, attended.

A team of paramedics from Rockhampton administered emergency first aid to the victim as the Fire and Rescue team worked painstakingly to cut him free using hydraulic equipment.

The Emergency Services spokeswoman confirmed that no other vehicle was involved in the accident.

It is understood the patient underwent emergency surgery yesterday afternoon.



PAIN RELIEF: During the delicate rescue, paramedics entered the cab to give emergency pain relief to the trapped man.

PHOTO: CHRIS ISON CI12/1109/11



LONG HAUL: It took emergency workers three hours to free the driver who was conscious throughout his ordeal.

PHOTO: CHRIS ISON CI12/1109/9

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