



MINE SAFETY

INVESTIGATION UNIT

Serious Injury – Roof Bolting – 3 March 08



Serious Roof Bolting Injury

- 3rd March 2008
- Underground Coal Mine near Cessnock NSW
- Production face – operating a bolting rig
- 39 year old production worker
- 2 ½ years at the mine





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Causal Factors

- Incorrect drill steel used to locate mesh.
- Inadequate measures to prevent unplanned operation of rotation.
- Insufficient safeguards to ensure separation of mineworker from moving parts.



Best Practice

- Risk assessment and implementation of risk controls for moving machinery
- Application of standards such as AS4024 and MDG35
- Bolting rigs that need both hands to be on the controls to operate it.
- Control handles that are segregated and readily identified by shape.



Related Published Resources

- [AS 4024.1-2006 Safety of Machinery](#)
- [MDG 35 – 2006 Bolting and Drilling Equipment in Mines](#)
- NSW DPI Safety Alert SA 08-05 – Miners arm injured using drill rig
- NSW DPI Safety Alert SA 05-05 – Drill rigs and serious injuries
- NSW DPI Mechanical Newsflash No. 21 (4/05) Arm entrapped in rib bolter
- NSW DPI Safety Alert SA 00-25 – Serious injury while roof bolting
- NSW DPI Safety Alert SA 99-16 – Continuous miner drill rig fatality
- NSW DPI Significant Incident Report SIR 94/4 – Operator injured by drill rig