

SAFETY BULLETIN

Stored energy in u-shaped cable bolt packaging

BACKGROUND

The stackable steel framed packaging of u-shaped cable bolts contains a significant amount of stored energy. This can cause an injury, particularly to the hands, when the cable bolt packaging is undone and the stored energy causes the cable bolt to spring open.

CIRCUMSTANCES

Workers have identified that releasing the stored energy from the stackable, steel framed packaging of the horseshoe shaped cable bolts is a hazardous task that can cause significant injury. An incident has occurred where a worker sustained an injury to his hands when he released a u-shaped package of cable bolts and his hand became caught between the cable bolts and the side of the storage pod.

Photo 1: U-shaped cable bolts in yellow steel framed packaging, stored in a pod.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mine management should contact their cable bolt supplier to discuss the current arrangements of their cable bolt packaging. This discussion should include collaborative consultation between mine management, workers and the suppliers regarding alternatives to release the stored energy of the cable bolt packaging or how operations can safely transport other cable bolt configurations underground.



NOTE: Please ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy of this safety bulletin, and are informed of its content and recommendations. This safety bulletin should be processed in a systematic manner through the mine's information and communication process. It should also be placed on the mine's notice board.

Signed



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