REPORTABLE INCIDENTS | WHS MINES LEGISLATION

Weekly incident summary

25 January 2017

Note: While the majority of incidents are reported and recorded within a week of the event, some are notified outside this time period. The incidents in this report therefore have not necessarily occurred in a one week period. All newly recorded incidents, whatever the incident date, are reviewed by the Chief Inspector and senior staff each week. For more comprehensive statistical data refer to our Annual Performance Measures Reports.

To report an incident call 1300 814 609 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Reportable incidents total: 25  Summarised incidents: 3

Summarised incidents – incidents of note for which operators should consider the comments provided and determine if action needs to be taken.

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<tr>
<th>Incident type</th>
<th>Summary</th>
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| High potential       | A truck lost traction while travelling down a ramp from the crib hut. The operator was not injured, but the truck slid more than 100 metres on an over-watered ramp. The truck stopped when it hit the centre of the bund wall. The NSW Resources Regulator is currently investigating the incident. | Mine operators should consider how a loss of traction can present a variety of risks to health and safety. This is particularly relevant to heavy vehicles when watering roads. Procedures around road watering should include:  
  - the provision of dry lines to assist heavy vehicle traction  
  - signage and communication of the areas where road watering has taken place.  
  It is also important to consider the expected volume of traffic on roads after watering has been undertaken. |
| incident             | SinNot 2017/00087                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                        |
| Serious injury       | A section of rib fell onto a miner driver’s lower-leg. He continued to work for around two hours before his leg began to swell. The Deputy stopped production and had the worker transported to the surface. He was taken to hospital, where an X-ray revealed a fracture to his lower-leg. | Mine operators and workers must be aware of the potential for strata failure resulting in serious injury or death.  
Mine operators should ensure that their safe systems of work can manage the risk of strata failure. The systems should be able to identify poor strata conditions and appropriately position workers to minimise their exposure to strata failure. |
| SinNot 2017/00063    |                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                        |
| Dangerous           | Two tradespersons were removing broken bolts from a tertiary sizer roller. Worker A was using vice grips to hold a nut onto the broken bolt while Worker B attempted to tack weld it into position. Worker A moved and brushed his forearm against the sizer and felt a shock in his forearm. The site’s electric shock protocol was activated. After | Work return clamps should be attached directly to the welding job. They should not be dependent on bolted joints for effective return paths. People involved with welding activities should remain insulated from the welding job. Welding gloves are not electrical insulators and if they are damp, can enhance the effects of an electric shock. |
| incident             | SinNot 2017/00062                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                        |
Incident type | Summary | Comment to industry
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taking an ECG, ambulance officers cleared Worker A. | Refer to the following publications for guidance:
| • AS/NZS 1674.2 Safety in welding and allied processes - Electrical
| • WTIA Technical Note 22 Welding Electrical Safety
| • NSW Resources Regulator Safety Bulletin: Safe use of electric welders
| • NSW Resources Regulator Information Sheet No.2: Basic welding practices
| • QLD Department of Natural Resources and Mines Safety Alert no. 253: Electric shocks from welding equipment

Recent incident publications
SB17-01 Gas outburst on longwall face
SB17-02 Mines and preparing for fires
You can find all our incident related publications (i.e. safety alerts, safety bulletins, incident information releases, weekly incident summaries and investigation reports) on the Mine Safety website.

Further information

Email mine.safety@industry.nsw.gov.au or contact one of our offices:

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (January 2017). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development or the user’s independent advisor. PUB17/61