

WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 7 January 2022, including the Christmas period.

This incident summary provides information on reportable incidents and safety advice for the NSW mining industry. To report an incident to the NSW Resources Regulator: phone 1300 814 609 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

At a glance

High level summary of emerging trends and our recommendations to operators.

TYPE	NUMBER
Reportable incident total	137
Summarised incident total	7

Summarised incidents

INCIDENT TYPE	SUMMARY	COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0041307 Coal processing plant Roads or other vehicle operating areas	While travelling back to the workshop, a forklift stopped to give way to another vehicle. As the forklift moved off it hit the give way sign and overturned. The operator was wearing a seatbelt at the time of incident and was uninjured.	Mine operators should communicate this incident to their workers and reinforce relevant controls and the use of seatbelts. Equipment operators should maintain awareness of the environment around them and, before commencing travel should check their surrounds for hazards. Refer to: Safety Alert- SA13-09 Seatbelt saves forklift driver



Dangerous incident
IncNot0041333
Open cut coal
Hazards identified
by mine operator



An apprentice was assisting to remove a ripper box from a dozer. The left tilt cylinder was removed and when the pin was knocked out of the right tilt cylinder, the ripper box rotated and hit a work platform. The apprentice fell from the working platform and was uninjured.



When planning tasks workers must consider how components can move and adequately plan to control this risk.

Isolation procedures should include the management of stored energy including gravity, and consider the rotation of components.

Dangerous incident
IncNot0041356
Metals
Roads or other
vehicle operating
areas



An excavator half-loaded a dump truck and needed to reposition. Operating procedures required the truck to exit the loading area, complete a loop and park at the new loading point. Instead, the truck operator drove out and immediately reversed into the new load point.

As the truck drove out, a grader entered the load area to clean up. When the truck reversed, the pos 6 tyre hit the grader frame.

Positive communications procedures were not followed.

A collision occurred at the site between a truck and dozer 48 hours earlier.



When an incident occurs, mine operators must investigate, review and revise control measures to prevent a reoccurrence ([Work Health and Safety \(Mines and Petroleum Sites\) Regulation 2014 clause 10 Review of control measures](#)).

Plant operators must establish positive communications before entering the work area of other mobile plant.

Workers have a legal obligation to follow procedures such as positive communications.

A recent Resources Regulator campaign focused on the risk of collisions involving heavy mining equipment. Refer to: [Vehicle incidents - heading in the wrong direction](#)

Refer to Safety Alert: [SA20-09 Operating mobile plant - Incidents and near misses](#)

Dangerous incident
IncNot0041361
Coal processing
plant
Hazards identified
by mine operator



A worker was using a telehandler to move scrap steel to a bin. An old cyclone was picked up on the tynes and while crowding back, it slipped from the fork tynes and landed on a pump impeller. A bracket from the cyclone snapped off and was propelled through the toughened windscreen of the telehandler, landing on the dashboard. The worker was not injured.



When conducting lifting operations, workers must ensure the equipment is correctly set up for the task and that loads are secure before commencing.

Dangerous incident
IncNot0041363
Open cut coal
Roads or other
vehicle operating
areas



A contractor was travelling in a ute when the driver tried to retrieve something from their crib bag. The distraction resulted in the ute running up onto the left-hand side windrow and rolling onto its side. No workers were injured.



Mine operators should communicate this incident to workers and reinforce relevant controls and rules when driving. Drivers should remain focused on the task at hand and not be distracted while driving. Drivers should find a safe place to stop and address any issues, rather than while driving.

Dangerous incident
IncNot0041369
Open cut coal
Roads or other
vehicle operating
areas



A dump truck operator was instructed by a dozer operator to tip at an alternate dump. The truck left the dump and began travelling loaded down a ramp. The truck gained speed to 60km/h before the operator applied the service brake. The truck then travelled through an intersection unable to stop, making contact with the centre island before coming to a stop on the left hand side of the haul road.



When there is a deviation from normal operating practices, workers must assess the risk and put appropriate controls in place. At all times, workers must maintain control of their vehicles. Workers must be regularly trained on the operating parameters of mobile plant, such as the speed range that retarders can operate on haul trucks.

Dangerous incident
IncNot0041372
Metals
Hazards identified
by mine operator



A vacation mining engineer was assisting with bolting on a Jumbo. During the installation of the last bolt, a finger on the nipper's left hand was pinched between the end of the boom and the face. The finger was crushed and required surgery.

Inexperienced workers including apprentices, trainees, graduates and vacation students require additional supervision. Those supervising inexperienced workers must consider the:

- experience of the worker
- competence of the worker
- unfamiliar language and terminology
- understanding of work instructions given.

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.

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

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