



# SAFETY ALERT

## SERIOUS SPINAL INJURY

### INCIDENT

An inexperienced mine worker suffered severe spinal injuries when crushed between the mine roof and a continuous mining machine.

### CIRCUMSTANCES

While involved in electrical power cable handling activities the employee's back impacted an installed roof bolt resulting in the injury.

### INVESTIGATION

Department of Primary Industries Safety Operations staff is investigating the circumstances of the incident.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Mines review the adequacy of training, assessment and supervision requirements for inexperienced employees.
- Mines assess the adequacy of safe operating procedures and isolation procedures for remote controlled equipment. Reference to MDGs 5001 and 5002 should be made.
- Mines review the safe position of persons during the operation of remote controlled equipment and in particular compliance with 'control', 'no standing' or 'no go' zones which may be in place.

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Find Safety Alerts at: <http://www.minerals.nsw.gov.au/safety/safalert.htm>