



SAFETY ALERT

HAUL TRUCK TIPS ON TO BACK WHILE DUMPING AT STOCKPILE

INCIDENT

A rear dump haul truck rolled over and landed on its tray. The truck had slid approximately 2m down the side of a stockpile and then rolled.

The operator exited the cabin of the truck and jumped to the ground before the truck rolled over the edge. The operator suffered minor bruising to his ankles.

CIRCUMSTANCES

A rear dump truck was reversing on top of a sub-base material stockpile to dump its load. A front-end loader was removing material from the base of the stockpile.

The operator felt the truck starting to slide down the stockpile, exited the cabin and jumped to the ground on the driver's side. The truck then slid part way down the face of the stockpile and rolled over onto its tray.

This incident may have been far more serious as a short time before the incident a front-end loader was at the base of the stockpile removing material. The rear dump truck may have come into contact with the loader. The operator risked serious injury when jumping from the dump truck.

INVESTIGATION

- Procedures were in place requiring a protective earth bund to be maintained along the edge at the top of the stockpile but they were not followed.
- The dump truck operator was reversing near the blind side of the stockpile.
- The weather conditions and visibility were good at the time of the accident.
- The dump truck operator was competent.
- The dump truck was in good mechanical condition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Review risk assessments, standards and safe work procedures for tipping on and management of stockpiles.
- Ensure adequate training, inspection, maintenance and supervision for compliance with stockpile standards.
- Ensure that operators of heavy vehicles fitted with a ROPS understand the need to wear seatbelts.
- Cabins of all vehicles should be cleaned and free of unsecured objects that may injure a person during an accident.

- Inform the workforce through tool box talks and safety meetings about the hazards associated with dumping operations on top of stockpiles.
- Conduct regular workplace inspections and task observations to ensure compliance with correct operating procedures and standards.
- Investigate proximity warning devices when working near faces.



Truck on back where front-end loader had been removing material



Top of stockpile – Note: bunding not sufficient to stop truck rolling



Truck on back - Note: ROPS kept cabin intact

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