

SAFETY BULLETIN

Rollover incidents involving load shifting plant

BACKGROUND

Over the past several years there has been an increase in the number of rollover incidents of load shifting plant.

In the majority of the incidents, operators suffered minor injuries, with the load shifting plant sustaining more serious damage.

Investigations identified common causal factors. These include:

- environmental and/or site conditions on the day
- human error
- load shifting plant being operated beyond its design limits
- poor supervision of the plant operator
- safety critical system/component failures of the plant
- inadequate maintenance practices
- lack of procedures or safe work method statements for the activities being carried out
- plant operators' inexperience with site conditions.

SPECIFIC LEGISLATION

The *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011* sets out mandatory requirements for the person with management or control of powered mobile plant, (including load shifting plant). Among other things this includes:

- Managing risks associated with *load shifting plant overturning* in accordance with part 3.1 'Managing risks to health and safety'. See clause 214(a).
- Ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, that a suitable combination of *operator protective devices* for the load shifting plant is provided, maintained and used. See clause 215(2).

RECOMMENDATIONS

To assist in compliance with legislation, mine operators should:

1. Identify all work activities on the mine site where load shifting plant is, or is likely to be used.
2. Where load shifting plant is, or is likely to be used, for each activity determine if there is a potential risk of the plant rolling over or objects falling on the operator.
3. Where there is an identified risk of load shifting plant rolling over (or objects falling on the operator), risk control measures must be implemented to manage those risks in accordance with 'hierarchy of risk control', see clause 36.

4. So far as is reasonably practicable, in managing the risks (as identified in **3.** above) provide, maintain and use operator protective structures on load shifting plant.
5. Provide for adequate training, supervision and task observation of site practices.
6. Consult with workers (in accordance with Section 47 of the WHS Act) in carrying out the recommendations.
7. Use a change management process to document all identified changes in the mine safety management plan and communicate those changes to all employees.

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



W. Barraclough
ACTING DIRECTOR
MINE SAFETY OPERATIONS BRANCH
NSW TRADE & INVESTMENT

View more safety bulletins and search our safety database at www.resources.nsw.gov.au/miner-and-explorers/safety-and-health/safety-bulletins .If you would like to receive safety bulletins by email, enter your contact details at www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/signup

Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information on which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NSW Trade & Investment or the user's independent advisor.

Examples of some roll over incidents involving load shifting equipment:



Comet Event: 317560600001



Comet Event: 282826000001



Comet Event: 317601618001



Comet Event: 317525348001



Comet Event: 317524951001



Comet Event: 317572917001



Comet Event: 317579015001



Comet Event: 317539327001



Comet Event: 317526358001



Comet Event: 317544275001



Comet Event: 317528680001



Comet Event: 317637277001