



SAFETY BULLETIN

Fatality involving loader

BACKGROUND

A Queensland loader operator was recently fatally injured after losing control after the engine stalled while travelling downhill on an exploration track. The braking system was ineffective and the loader toppled over, crushing the operator between the cab and the ground. The Queensland Department of Mines and Energy – Mines Inspectorate released *Safety Alert No 171* (www.nrw.qld.gov.au/mines/safety_health.html) on the incident on 13 September 2007.

A truck driver was fatally injured at a NSW quarry in 2005 when the truck he was driving failed to negotiate a corner and rolled down an embankment. NSW DPI has released Safety Alerts addressing the issues of safety critical systems, braking, safe operating grades for mobile equipment and seatbelts.

RECOMMENDATIONS

All mines should review the following alerts (www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/minerals/safety/safety-alerts) and ensure safety critical systems are functional and seat belts are worn:

- SA06-07 Seatbelts must be worn
- SA06-12 Maintenance of safety critical systems – braking, steering and warning systems
- SA06-13 Braking standards for trucks
- SA06-14 Safe operating grades for mobile equipment

Consideration of these alerts is necessary to prevent future occurrences of like incidents.

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

Paul Healey
ACTING DIRECTOR, MINE SAFETY OPERATIONS BRANCH
NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

View more Safety Alerts at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/minerals/safety/safety-alerts. If you would like to receive Safety Alerts by email, send your contact details to mine.safetyalert@dpi.nsw.gov.au