



REPORTABLE INCIDENTS | WHS MINES LEGISLATION

Weekly incident summary

Published 27 January 2016

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 and summarised in this report. For more comprehensive statistical data refer to our [Annual Performance Measures Reports](#).

Reportable incidents total

Level 1 incidents	→	Level 2 incidents	→	Level 3 incidents
23		10		0

Note: Incidents are categorised as Level 1, 2 or 3 according to the seriousness of the incident, with 3 being the most serious.

Injuries	Fatalities
5	0

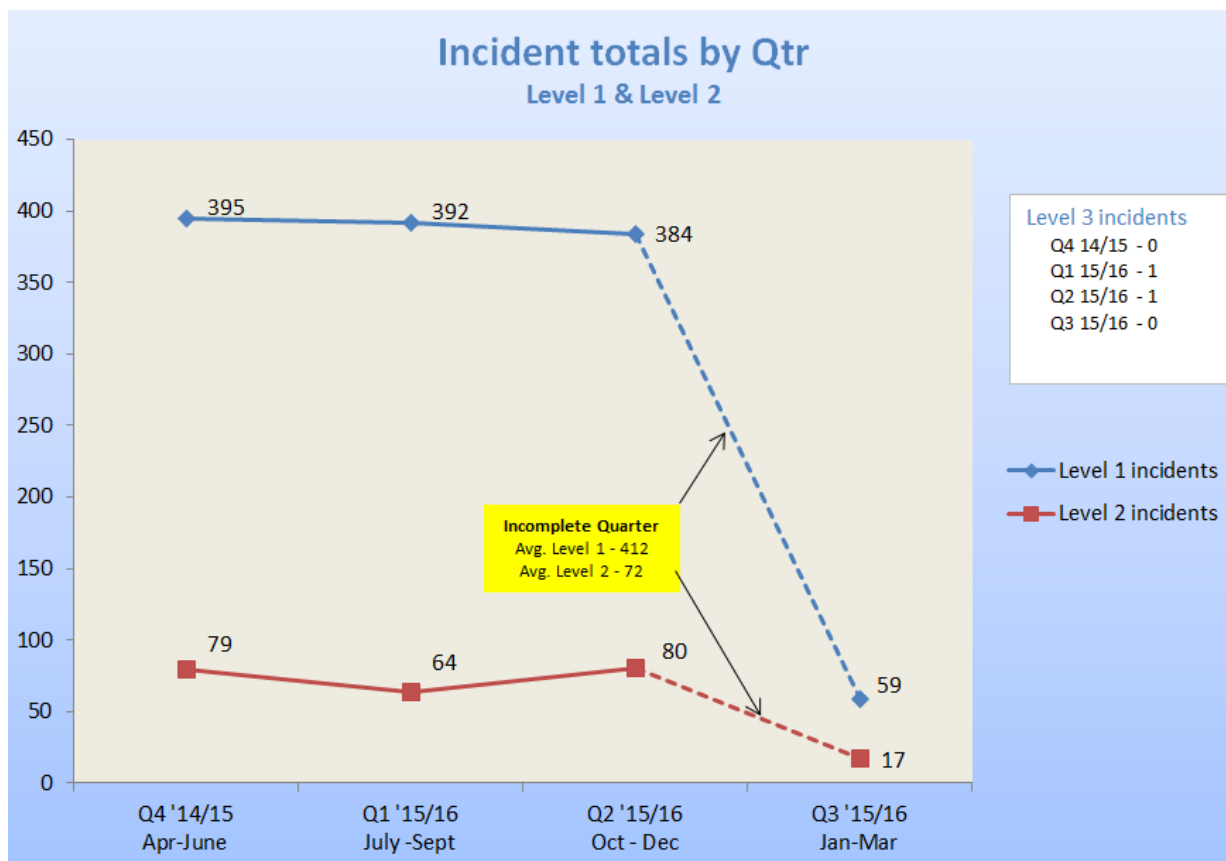
Reportable incidents overview

Note: While all incidents are investigated, generally only level 2 and 3 incidents are summarised below.

Level	Incident type	Summary	Comment to industry
2	Elec Energy 317658126001	A mechanical maintainer had completed a service on a generator. Upon trying to restart the generator the battery exploded.	Mines should ensure batteries are installed on mobile and transportable plant in accordance with the guidance contained in AS/NZS4871.6 and manufacturers recommendations. Mines should also ensure maintenance procedures for mobile plant provide an appropriate level of detail to allow personnel to safely and correctly determine battery condition.
2	Elec Energy 317658112001	An arcing fault in the motor control enclosure of an air compressor caused the supply circuit breaker to trip on short circuit. The fault caused the main enclosure door to open under the force of the arc blast.	Electrical panels on the surface of a mine must be built and installed to the principles of AS/NZS 3000. Where a gauge change in wires occurs this must have adequate electrical protection. Creepage and clearance distances must be maintained along with adequate arc fault prevention standards (barriers, added insulation). Consideration should also be made to adequate thermal dissipation and enclosure free space. The intro to site process must ensure the above with regular auditing to ensure compliance.



Level	Incident type	Summary	Comment to industry
2	Strata/Ground Control 317658120001	Material from a highwall failure striking the left hand side of a dozer.	Audit all highwalls to ensure that they are safe to work near, particularly in relation to water ingress / degradation. If they are deemed to be unsafe, then implement appropriate controls to restrict access to those areas. Ensure hazard plans are in place and comprehensive.
2	Gas 317658080001	A number of notifications for methane levels greater than 2.5% by volume have been reported from underground coal mine operations.	Industry should ensure they put in place adequate ventilation controls for gas levels when carrying out maintenance on their gas drainage plants.
2	Work Environment 317658096001	Complaint about the risk of access and exit to and from site onto the main road.	Operators should ensure that entrances to their operations comply with the appropriated regulatory authority. Particularly (but not limited to) design, visibility and appropriate signage for light and heavy vehicle interaction.
2	Strata/Ground Control 317658102001	During mining operations an excavator was removing waste on the northern side when a section of wall on the east side of the excavator failed and contacted the excavator on the off side of the operator's cabin.	Industry should make their operators aware of the hazards when operating equipment in close proximity to low / high walls.
2	Mech Equipment 317658086001	Cylinder rod from the stick assembly of an excavator was ejected from the cylinder barrel during removal for maintenance. The rod fell to the ground and contacted the wheel assembly of the crane being used for the task. *Cl.179(a)(v) - cylinder rod falling from excavator and Cl.179(a)(xv) - cylinder rod contacting crane wheel*.	People were clear of the area at the time of the incident. Safe work procedures for this type of maintenance task should take into account the possibility of such a failure and have no-go zones defined accordingly.
2	Elec Energy 317658134001	An electrical worker reported receiving an electric shock while inserting an energised plug into an earth leakage relay. The issue of 'live testing / work' is to be investigated.	Mines are reminded that live work, including energised testing, is not permitted at a mine site except in exceptional cases as allowed by legislation.
2	Mech Equipment 317658138001	A truck presented to the dump where a dozer was tending. The truck operator was unsure where to dump the load based on initial communication from the dozer operator and stopped to gain further instructions. The dozer operator believed the truck had passed behind and backed away from the face to start his next push, backing into Pos. 3 tyre on the truck. The tyre was punctured and the rapid deflation cracked the rear window of the dozer.	The industry should enforce the need for positive communication when plant is operating in close proximity to other plant.



Recent incident publications

No new incident publications.

You can find all our incident related publications (i.e. safety alerts, safety bulletins, incident information releases, weekly incident summaries and investigation reports) on our [website](#).

Further information

Should you wish to seek further information, please contact the following offices:

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