



REPORTABLE INCIDENTS | WHS MINES LEGISLATION

Weekly incident summary

18 January 2017

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. For more comprehensive statistical data refer to our [Annual Performance Measures Reports](#).

To report an incident call **1300 814 609** 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Reportable incidents total: 19 Summarised incidents: 3

Summarised incidents – incidents of note for which operators should consider the comments provided and determine if action needs to be taken.

Incident type	Summary	Comment to industry
Dangerous incident SInNot 2017/00047	A stand-alone battery was being used to jump start a water pump. When an attempt was made to crank the pump the stand-alone battery exploded. The worker was approximately 4 m from the battery and was not injured or affected by the exploding battery.	<p>This incident is still under investigation, but initial observation highlights the risks associated with the use of lead acid batteries. The battery involved in this incident appears to have been removed from service in its original application. When a battery is removed from service due to inability to perform its intended function, it should be considered unserviceable and disposed of, in accordance with original equipment manufacturer recommendations It should not be reassigned to alternative uses.</p> <p>Reference should be made to following safety alerts for further information relating to battery explosions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSW Department of Industry – Mine Safety, safety bulletin: SB16-02 Exploding lead acid batteries QLD Dept of Natural Resources and Mines: Safety Bulletin no.150 Exploding lead acid batteries Worksafe Victoria: Safety Alert Preventing battery explosions
Dangerous incident SInNot 2016/00192	While dewatering the gas drainage line in a development panel, an operator isolated the gas riser. This resulted in the gas range pressurising. The resulting increase in pressure resulted in a 150 mm hose separating at a joint. This released a large	<p>Mine operators should ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> their gas drainage system is designed to accommodate the anticipated peak pressures all hose fittings are design-rated for the anticipated peak pressures

Incident type	Summary	Comment to industry
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volume of CO2 inbye.

- isolation procedures are in place that minimise the potential for the gas drainage line to pressurise.

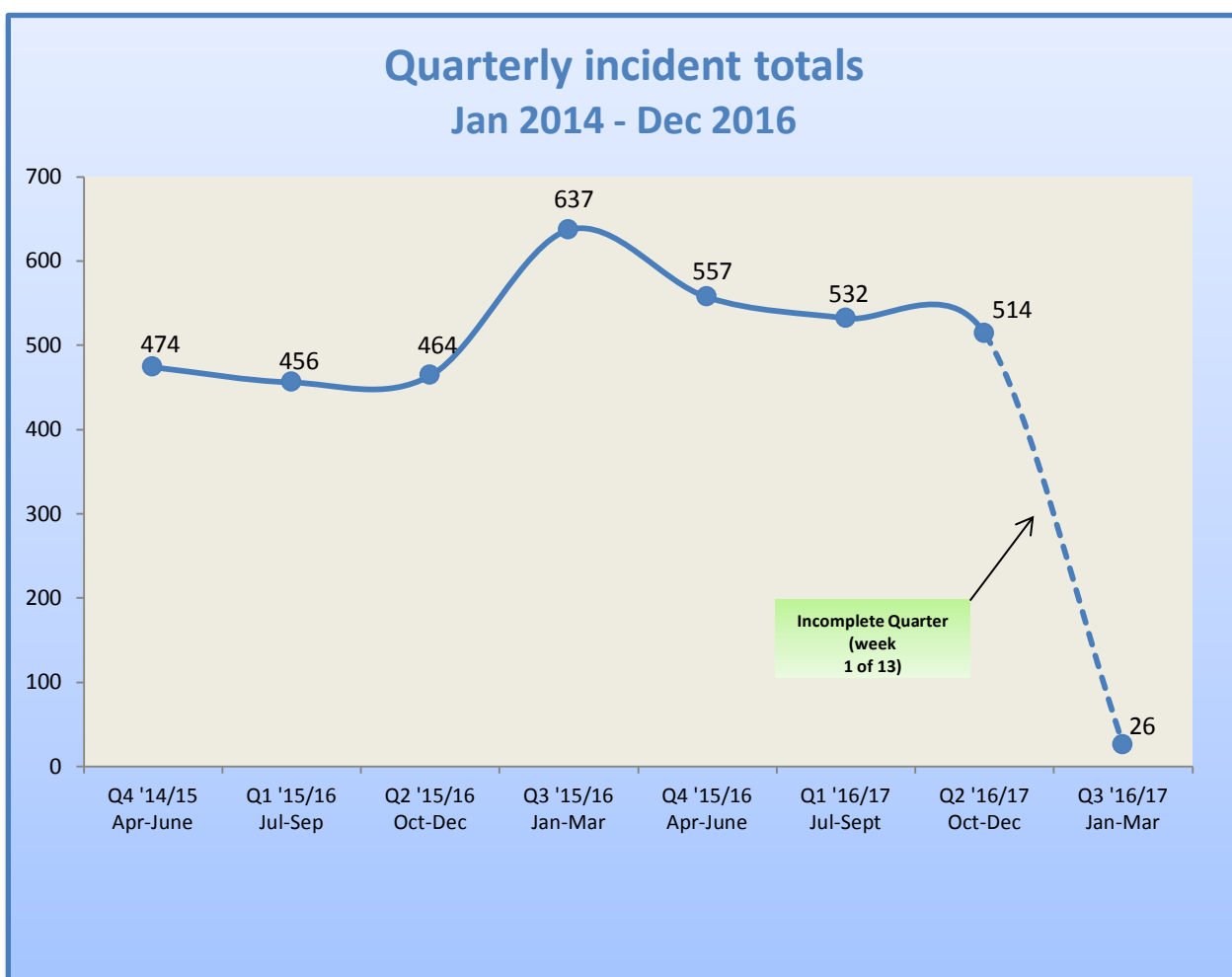
Dangerous incident

SInNot-2017/00035

After completing a task, an operator was docking the overhead crane in the coal handling and preparation plan. As he was docking the crane, a bracket fell from the crane to the deck beside him. The bracket was approximately 5 kg and possibly broke away due to fatigue.

Mine operators are reminded that regular inspection and, where appropriate, non-destructive testing should be carried out as part of the maintenance and certification cycle for plant. Where any modification is made to the plant, change management procedures should be used to ensure that the modification is captured in the maintenance and inspection schedule.

Mine operators should also consider the environment in which the plant is to be operated and adjust those timeframes accordingly.



Recent incident publications

SB17-01 Industry reports more truck rollover incidents

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

Further information

Email mine.safety@industry.nsw.gov.au or contact one of our offices:

COAL (NORTH) and EAST METEX

Maitland

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Mineral Resources
516 High Street, Maitland NSW 2320
(PO Box 344, Hunter Region MC
NSW 2310)
T 1300 814 609

COAL (SOUTH)

Wollongong

NSW Department of Industry
State Government Offices
Level 3, Block F, 84 Crown Street,
Wollongong NSW 2500
(PO Box 674, Wollongong NSW 2520)
T 1300 814 609

WEST METEX

Orange

NSW Department of Industry
161 Kite Street, Orange NSW 2800
(Locked Bag 21, Orange NSW 2800)
T 1300 814 609

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (January 2017). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development or the user's independent advisor. PUB17/46