

WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 24 February 2022


This incident summary provides information on reportable incidents and safety advice for the NSW mining industry. To report an incident to the NSW Resources Regulator: phone 1300 814 609 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

At a glance

High level summary of emerging trends and our recommendations to operators.

TYPE	NUMBER
Reportable incident total	42
Summarised incident total	3

Summarised incidents

INCIDENT TYPE	SUMMARY	COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0041673 Underground coal Roads or other vehicle operating areas 	<p>A development panel was experiencing wet and muddy conditions. A vacuum pump was being used between shuttle car loads to remove slurry. After a shuttle car unloaded, the operator stopped and had a brief conversation with the pump operator.</p> <p>The shuttle car operator returned to the shuttle car and the vacuum pump operator to the vacuum pump hose, with their back to the shuttle car. The shuttle car operator drove the shuttle car forward into the intersection, knocking the vacuum pump operator to the ground. The vacuum pump operator was not injured.</p>	<p>The hazard of interaction between workers on foot and mobile plant is well known. It is imperative that mine operators have controls in place to protect workers undertaking tasks in close proximity to mobile plant. Effective controls such as segregation of tasks, hard barriers and positive communication should be considered in risk assessments and implemented prior to a task commencing.</p>

Dangerous incident
IncNot0041666
Metals processing

A dredge wheel excavator arm was being loaded onto a low loader. As the rear of the low loader took weight, the front of the trailer and the rear wheels of the truck started to lift off the ground. The truck and trailer then started to skid forward. A supervisor got into the truck and applied the trailer brakes. The truck and trailer moved about 3 metres.



When planning loading and unloading activities, the object size, weight, centre of gravity and weight movement during the task should be considered in the risk assessment and effective controls implemented.

Truck drivers should ensure their truck and trailer are correctly set up and parked for loading and unloading activities.

Dangerous incident
IncNot0041650
Construction materials
Roads or other
vehicle operating
areas

Two loaders were operating in a stockpile area when they collided. The first loader was picking up a load when a second loader operator communicated that he was travelling behind the first loader, however the first loader reversed and made contact with the bucket of the second loader passing behind.



Effective positive communication procedures should be in place to ensure safe separation of mobile equipment working in close proximity.

Supervisors should monitor compliance to positive communication procedures. Systems such as collision detection and avoidance systems, visual aids and segregation should be implemented before relying on procedural controls. Refer to:

[Safety Bulletin 18-06 Lack of positive communications](#)

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