

Serious Accidents and High Potential Incidents

Mining and quarrying



Mines Inspectorate

Released: 31 March 2008

Summary of reported incidents for period 1 January-15 March 2008

Gravity – Fall of Person

- While water blasting a conveyor steel structure the corroded floor mesh on which the contractor stood gave way and fell approximately five metres to the ground. The operator was able to grab hold of the steel frame and avoid falling through the hole.
- An operator fell to the ground when a hand rail on a Cat D10R dozer failed at the rubber vibration mount.

Gravity – Fall of Equipment

- While installing an underground conveyor belt structure the supporting chain block let go allowing the structure to drop 200mm and strike a worker on the head.
- While working on an upper floor of a process plant a hammer was dropped. It bounced on the floor, over the kick board and fell onto a walkway on a level below.
- Workers were setting up to use a monorail carriage and chain block as an anchor point for working at heights. As the carriage was moved along the monorail it dropped off the end and fell ten metres to the floor.
- A Cat 797 dump truck was reversing short of a tip edge when the ground started to move. The operator got out of the truck. The truck subsided eleven metres horizontally and ten metres vertically.
- A waste dump tip head collapsed as a Cat 789 dump truck backed into tip. The truck slid approximately 15 metres vertically down the face of the dump.

Gravity – Rockfall

- A rock rolled from a bench face under the housing of a P&H 4100XC shovel and damaged the electrical supply cable.
- A section of pit end wall fell onto the tracks of an Hitachi EX 3600 excavator pushing it sideways
- Approximately 1200 tonnes fell from a section of pit wall which was being monitored and was banded. The bund did not contain the fall which

spread over two thirds of the haul road which was open to traffic.

- Two shotfirers were leaving a bench in a light vehicle after inspecting a shot when rocks fell from the bench face beside them. Some of the rocks struck the vehicle causing minor damage.
- A section of a haul road wall failed. It struck the driver's side of a Komatsu 465 dump truck, which was being loaded with blasted material, pushing in the door, breaking the windscreen and damaging the walkway and handrail.
- The driver of a Cat 783 dump truck was struck and partially concussed when a rock fell from the bucket of a loader tipping in the back of the truck. The rock struck the handrail of the truck and ricocheted through the driver's closed window.
- While handling the power cable to a continuous miner a piece of rib, measuring approximately 150mm X 500mm X 500mm, fell narrowly missing the operator. However another piece hit him knocking his helmet off and dazing him. He suffered soft tissue damage to his neck.
- An underground production drill rig operator noticed some small rocks starting to fall from the roof. He vacated and barricaded the area. When he returned with his supervisor a rock fall had occurred burying the rig
- Whilst completing an advance of 12 metres with a continuous miner a section of roof approximately ten metres long by four metres wide and one metre high collapsed. Part of the fall struck the operator. He was knocked and pinned down by the roof stone. He sustained minor bruising and grazing.

Mechanical

- A new transmission was being manoeuvred into position in a Cat 623F scraper when a lifting eye bolt failed and the transmission fell onto a worker's leg. He sustained a fractured femur.
- A worker was taken to hospital with a suspected fractured foot after an underground loader lowered a workbasket onto the foot.
- While installing a spray bar on an isolated conveyor a worker had his right thumb partially

amputated when the end of the spray bar dropped unexpectedly onto the head chute.

- Whilst assembling equipment using a hydraulically driven high tension gun a fitter received facial lacerations and a suspected injured jaw after being struck by the hydraulic torque multiplier.
- While striking a pin removal tool with a sledge hammer, to remove a pin from a Komatsu D375 dozer blade K link, a piece of the tool has broken off and struck the hand of the worker who was holding it.
- Whilst commissioning a lubrication system a steel hydraulic line burst and oil under pressure hit the worker on his abdomen causing bruising.
- An apprentice boilermaker was grinding inside a steel tank when the grinding wheel snagged on the adjustment cord of a cloth face shield, and came up and made contact above his left eye.
- A maintenance fitter was using a nine inch grinder when it gripped and kicked back striking him in the chin and cutting to the bone.
- A piece of a bearing flew off whilst being struck by a drift during removal from a light vehicle and entered the fitter's forearm.
- A Cat 785C dump truck was reversing to dump a load when one of its steer tyres failed in two places.
- A Cat 793 dump truck was reversing under a shovel bucket when a section of the tread and both adjacent sidewalls of a steer tyre failed.
- A blow out occurred on the inside rear tyre of a Cat 773B dump truck shortly after the tyre was re-inflated in the workshop. The air blast pushed the operator backwards.
- A fitter was working on the hydraulic tank of a shuttle car with the knowledge of the driver. The driver walked away then came back. He forgot the fitter was still working on the shuttle car and sat in the driver's seat ready to move the car.
- A conveyor was re-energised whilst still being worked on. The isolation lock and tags were placed on the incorrect lock out mechanism.
- During a hoisting shaft head rope cut the head rope was being lowered using a sheave wheel attached to a chain block. The sling from the chain block broke and the head rope and cappel fell onto the cage.
- Whilst pulling a Bretby Cable Handler with an Eimco loader the wire rope sling failed at the tow point striking a bystander who sustained a small

laceration on his chin and bruising on his forearm and underarm.

- A Cat D11 dozer was using a sling to pull another Cat D11 dozer out of a bog when the towing point on the bogged dozer failed and was projected into the fuel tank of the towing dozer.
- While pressure testing the butt welds on chilled water pipes for a surface refrigeration plant a pipe collar failed causing the pipe end and flange, weighing approximately 25kg to launch vertically and land approximately 11 metres away.
- When the drill rig and stab jack on a Joy Mini Bolter were lowered the stab jack continued to extend and the machine slewed towards the rib.
- A conveyor failed to stop when the pull wire emergency stop was pulled.
- A metal stake penetrated the driver's side floor when a light vehicle drove over the top of it.

Mechanical – Vehicle Collision

- A light vehicle drove through a barricaded area into a live dump where a dozer was building a ramp.
- While overtaking a Cat 16H grader a Cat 693 dump truck driver saw another vehicle coming from the opposite direction. The overtaking truck went too close to the grader, drove over the blade and contacted one of the tyres of the grader.
- A personnel carrier with six people aboard collided with a reversing Eimco loader.
- A light vehicle was following behind a Cat 777 dump truck when it turned left at an intersection. As the light vehicle continued through the intersection it had to swerve to avoid a Cat 785 dump truck which was entering the intersection from the left.
- A Cat 785 dump truck narrowly avoided colliding with a light vehicle when it cut the corner of an intersection and did not see the light vehicle that had stopped to give way on the truck driver's blind side
- Two D11R dozers working at right angles to each other collided as they reversed.
- A dozer was pulling a length of poly pipe up a steep incline with the blade raised which restricted the forward vision of the driver. As the dozer reached the top of the incline and started to tip over to level the blade contacted a troop carrier parked on the crest.

- The operator of a Komatsu 830E dump truck was approaching an intersection and did not see the hazard lights of a Komatsu 830E dump truck which was broken down near the intersection. He swerved to avoid the broken down truck but ended up making contact.
- Two Cat D11R dozers working at right angles to each other collided as they reversed.

Mechanical – Vehicle Loss of Control

- A forklift carrying a 1200kg load around a plant rolled onto its side when the front wheel rode up onto a windrow. The driver's seat belt mounting broke off in the incident.
- The operator of a Cat 773B dump truck lost control of his truck coming down a haul road. He drove up a ramp, close to its edge, and rolled the truck. The truck came to rest on its side in a drain.
- A Cat 769C dump truck, while carting a load, lost brakes on a ramp and travelled downhill approximately 300 metres before coming to a stop when it crashed into a stockpile.
- A loaded Cat articulated dump truck was reversing up a stockpile ramp when the engine stalled. The truck rolled down the ramp onto the bench and along the side of an adjacent stockpile causing the tray to tip onto its side.
- When an empty Cat 785 dump truck came down a recently watered ramp and turned at a switchback the operator lost control of truck, and it has slid into loaded Cat 785 dump truck coming up the ramp.
- A Cat 773 water truck was descending a ramp that just been watered when it sliding side ways. When the operator braked with the retarder and foot brake the truck flipped onto its side.
- While driving down a wet ramp, a Cat 785 dump truck lost traction and hit the berm on the side of the ramp and spun around.
- The operator of a Franner crane lost control of the crane while travelling on a wet road. It veered across the road mounted a berm and rolled over into a drain.
- A Cat 793 dump truck veered into a berm as a result of a micro sleep.
- A tie rod on a fully loaded Cat 789 dump truck broke while hauling.
- The operator got out of an Eimco LHD without applying the park brake. He relied on the operator's door interlock to engage the park brake

which on this occasion failed to operate, allowing the machine to move forward.

- An empty bus rolled across a carpark and came to rest against a berm.
- The operator got out of an Eimco LHD without applying the park brake. He relied on the operator's door interlock to engage the park brake which on this occasion failed to operate, allowing the machine to move forward.

Explosion

- Electrical sparks were observed discharging from a Continuous Miner after the power cable was damaged at the breaker feeder approximately 100 metres away.
- Open arcing and exposed conductors were observed when a power cable went through a breaker feeder.
- Whilst conducting charging operations, an MMU changed lanes on the bench and ran over a 300 gram booster lying on top of drill cuttings beside a blasthole.
- Flyrock landed in close proximity to workers in mobile equipment.
- A blast guard was unaware that a fitter was within the exclusion zone until the fitter was observed leaving the area.
- A 12V battery which had just been taken off charge exploded when the operator was connecting the leads to the terminals.

Thermal – Fire

- A fire was extinguished on the rear differential of a Canter truck after the operator smelled smoke and stopped the vehicle on the decline.
- After parking an explosives charge car in the vehicle's lock up area, the operator noticed smoke coming from engine bay area of the vehicle. The exhaust lagging had caught on fire.
- A small fire occurred on an AD45 truck when a hydraulic hose burst and sprayed oil onto the turbo.
- A small fire occurred on an Hitachi EX1800 excavator after oil entered the exhaust system from a blown turbo charger.
- A fire occurred on an overburden rig when a hydraulic hose burst spraying oil onto the turbo charger.

- A fire started on a Cat D10 dozer when a lift ram cylinder sprayed oil onto the engine turbo area and also onto the driver's cabin.
- An oil leak onto the turbo charger resulted in a small fire on a Terex RH340 excavator.
- A boiler maker was welding in the revolving frame of a dragline when a spark fell into a cable tray and started a small fire.
- A worker was lighting a cutting torch when a leak of gas from the flash back arrestor and supply hose union ignited and burnt his hand.

Electrical

- An apprentice electrician received a 240V electric shock whilst changing a fuse when he placed his socket on the fuse terminal. The isolator was found to be faulty and had not operated correctly.
- An electrician received an electric shock when he touched a live wire whilst wiring on the dead side of a junction box.
- An electrician received an electric shock when he mistakenly started disconnecting the motor on a sump pump which was close to the one he had just isolated and tested for dead.
- A dragline operator received a slight electric shock while operating an air winch behind the dragline during a lightning strike on or near the machine during a storm.
- Exposed conductors were observed when a bobcat cut two 240 volt cables whilst cleaning up in reclaim tunnel.
- A bobcat was cleaning spillage in a crushing plant when it contacted a 415v cable.

Other

- A coal mine was evacuated due to the high level of hydrogen (>75ppm) and carbon monoxide (>200ppm) in a sealed goaf.
- An underground worker, who had been grouting cables, suffered heat stress.
- A drill jumbo offsider collapsed from heat stress after working in hot conditions.
- Workers were flushing the hoses used to inject rapid setting foam into a cavity on the longwall face when the worker located at the pump removed the staple from the catalyst hose without depressurising the system. The hose disconnected from the coupling hitting the worker

in the nose and spraying the pressurised liquid into his eyes. He sustained a broken nose and chemical burns to his eyes.

Serious Accidents and High Potential Incidents

Mining and quarrying



Mines Inspectorate

Released: 22 April 2008

Summary of reported incidents for period 16-31 March 2008

Gravity – Fall of Equipment

- Whilst demolishing a stopping, a 2x1 metre section fell and hit a worker. He suffered lacerations, a bruised back and ribs.
- A 190 kg motor which was being lowered by a chain block onto a walkway dropped a metre when the wire anchor point attaching the chain block to a suspension hook dislodged.
- The rope on a dragline drag drum spooled out through the brakes, allowing the bucket to fall close to a dozer which was moving the trailing cable in front of the dragline.
- A side tipper trailer overbalanced and tipped on its side while unloading due to the wet concentrate adhering to the tipper tray.

Gravity – Rockfall

- Pieces of coal hit a shearer driver during longwall cutting operations when a large slab of coal slumped off the face, struck the face side of the pan line and shattered.
- A rock fall of approximately eight tonnes occurred in an underground travelway.

Mechanical

- An incorrect isolation was performed on a circuit breaker during a maintenance shutdown. A scissor lock was placed through the lock mechanism while the circuit breaker was still in the ON position.
- A Cat 16H grader operator sustained a fractured foot and lacerations after her boot was jammed between the grader's hydraulic personnel lifting frame and the cabin.
- An exploration driller's offsider was guiding the wire line onto the winch drum by hand when he caught his hand on a splice in the rope which pulled his hand towards the drum.

- Whilst tightening a water swivel, a trainee driller was struck on the chest by a pair of stilsons when the assembly rotated unexpectedly.
- Whilst grouting cable bolts, a worker was trapped between the topside rail of an IT forklift truck and the back of the drive. His suspected injuries include sternum cartilage damage and cracked ribs.

Mechanical – Vehicle Collision

- An excavator was sitting on a four metre high bench loading a truck. Whilst swinging round with a full bucket the bench subsided causing the excavator to tilt and the bucket to hit the tray.
- The driver of a Cat 789C dump truck was distracted by a two way call and reversed into a Cat D11 dozer.
- A Cat 785 dump truck operator drove onto a main pit ramp without checking for traffic and collided with another Cat 785 dump truck which was also descending the ramp.
- While a Cat 992 loader was reversing on the ROM it collided with a Cat 785 dump truck. The loader operator was unaware that the truck was behind him.

Mechanical – Vehicle Loss of Control

- A light vehicle rolled over on a ramp with a clay base which had been overwatered.
- A Cat 793 dump truck driver lost control of his truck while descending a ramp on an overwatered section and skidded into the tray of a Cat 793 dump truck which was coming up the ramp.

Explosion

- A 6.6kV/415V transformer exploded causing a fire in the HV auxiliary room.

- Open arcing and a flash occurred when a longwall cable with previously undetected damage was covered with water while hoses on a pump sled were being changed.
- Stretching of a shovel trailing cable during relocation caused internal arcing in a 6.6kV and the coupler to explode scattering pieces over the surrounding area.

Thermal – Fire

- A small fire occurred on the turbo of a Cat 797 dump truck.
- A leaking turbo gasket caused a small fire on a Terex RH 120E excavator.
- A fire started in the engine bay of a diesel fuel delivery truck prime mover while it was unloading. A battery lead cable-tied to the return fuel line may have contributed to the initiation of the fire.
- A fire started on a Coldwell overburden drill when a hydraulic hose burst and sprayed oil onto the engine.
- When the bolts on a brake calliper failed on an IT28 Tele handler oil leaked out of the pressure chamber, the brakes applied and then the leaking oil on the brakes caught fire.
- Following tripping of a power generation unit at a Power Station an 11kV fault occurred in a mine's HV sub station resulting in a major fire.

Electrical

- A worker trying to jump-start a truck received an electric shock and superficial burns when he used damaged jump start terminals.
- A worker received an electric shock when wiping down a light switch with a damp sponge.
- A worker drilling a hole through a wall contacted the electric cable of the air-conditioner, tripping the circuit breaker.

Inundation

- Evacuation of an underground mine occurred when water entering a section of the mine started to restrict egress from the mine.
- A stope paste fill containment bulkhead constructed from waste material failed due to erosion allowing approximately 800 tonnes of paste fill to flow out the stope.

Serious Accidents and High Potential Incidents

Mining and quarrying



Mines Inspectorate

Released: 19 June 2008

Summary of reported incidents for period 1-30 April 2008

Gravity – Fall of Person

- An employee entered a fall hazard barricaded area without wearing any fall arrest equipment
- The buckled strap on a boilermaker's boot spat caught on the rung of a ladder causing him to fall 1.3 metres to the floor and cracking his ribs.

Gravity – Fall of Equipment

- A steel chute fell approximately 2 metres during installation dislodging another steel structure and striking a bystander.
- An auxiliary crane rope broke and the hook dropped to the ground after the rope became entangled.
- An excavator slid off a low loader onto its side when the cross-grade of the bench which the low loader was traversing increased.
- A loaded Cat 725 articulated dump truck was reversing uphill when the ground under the rear wheel gave way. The truck slid down the bank and rolled over.

Gravity - Rockfall

- A Cat D11R dozer was cleaning beside a catch bench, approximately three metres off a faulted wall in a coal block when a large section of the wall fell. It spilled over the catch bench and contacted the dozer.
- A section of wet and sandy highwall strata, 15 metres high and 10 metres thick, slipped onto the top bench.
- Whilst cleaning mud build-up from the track frame of an Hitachi EX5500 excavator a large lump of mud fell from the frame hitting a worker on the arm and shoulder.
- A stope crown pillar collapsed as charging preparations were being organised.
- A 1500 tonne underground rockfall buried the boom of a cablebolting rig.
- A longwall crew were repositioning a roofbolter when a section of face coal fell out and hit one of the employees. He sustained a soft tissue injury to his leg.

Mechanical

- Whilst preparing to collar a hole using a continuous miner development bolter the operator had his hand positioned above the drill steel. When he started the rotation a burr on the steel grabbed his glove entangling his right hand and arm. He sustained a fractured arm and cuts to his hand.
- Whilst removing the drill steel from the chuck, the drill rotated, catching a worker's glove and squashing his fingers and back of hand.
- An operator has had his fingers grazed while holding the steel guard rail on the drill rig when the mast lowered.
- An exploration driller was changing rods when he jammed his finger between the breakout tool and the drill deck tearing the flesh away from the first knuckle to the tip of the finger.
- While lowering an excavator oil cooler into a crate an employee stuck his finger in to determine the position of the oil cooler. As he was doing this the oil cooler dropped and cut off the tip of his finger to the first joint.
- A process plant employee sustained a fractured and lacerated finger when a hose he was lowering dropped unexpectedly and his finger was jammed by the hose flange.
- Two workers were installing roof bolts off the platform of a continuous miner. After installing a roof bolt the drill retracted down the slide and came in contact with the drill rod which had fallen against the slide. The drill steel compressed and sprung out hitting one of the workers in the side of the neck.
- An exploration driller was cleaning a drill rig radiator with compressed air when the hose became entangled in the spinning shaft of the compressor. The hose wrapped around the driller's legs trapping him against the rig. Attempts by other employees to shut down the compressor using the emergency stops were unsuccessful. Finally the friction from the shaft on the hose melted part of the hose, freeing the driller from entanglement.
- While a Volvo excavator rock breaker was breaking a rock a small piece of rock struck a water truck driver who was preparing to fill his truck which was located outside the exclusion zone.

- An underground production blasthole drilled from the level below made an unplanned breakthrough into the floor of the drive 20 metres above and within 3 metres of an operating drill rig.
- A diesel fitter was hit on the head by a lock ring as he was levering it out from a deflated tyre and wheel assembly on a Cat 785B dump truck.
- Whilst travelling to a coal prep plant the left hand steer tyre detached from stub axle and hub assembly of a coal road train.

Mechanical – Vehicle Collision

- The driver of a Cat 785 dump truck who was reversing to dump his load failed to respond to requests to stop from the dozer operator. The truck's radio had been turned down.
- A coal hauler parked at the bottom of a ramp rolled forward and the front wheels ran over the front of a light vehicle parked nearby.
- Whilst turning into an intersection the driver of a scraper noticed a light vehicle overtaking. The scraper driver changed direction to drive straight ahead to avoid a collision.
- A dump truck collided with a reversing loader. The truck driver mistakenly thought the loader driver had acknowledged his radio call. The truck was driven to the stock pile to tip the load. While tipping, the truck body slid off and fell to the ground.
- A Cat 384 rubber tyred dozer was cleaning up behind an Hitachi EX5500 excavator. The excavator bucket contacted the dozer cabin when the excavator swung around.
- During loading operations the bucket of a Cat 992 loader hit the side of the tray of a Cat 785 dump truck causing the truck driver to be thrown around in the cabin.
- Two light vehicles collided at a T-junction when one of them failed to give way.
- A Cat 2900 underground loader collided with a light vehicle parked in a stockpile bay.
- A Cat 789 dump truck, turning to position for dumping its load, ran into the rear of a Komatsu 830E rear dump truck when it stopped to lower its tray.

Mechanical – Vehicle Loss of Control

- The driver of a troop carrier transporting six people back from crib on a haul road lost

control of the vehicle crossed the haul road and came to a halt on the bund wall.

- The steering on a Komatsu 630E dump truck became unresponsive while travelling on a haul road. The operator applied the emergency braking and brought the truck safely to rest.
- Whilst negotiating a 90 degree turn, the driver of a Cat 785 dump truck lost control. The wheels hit the windrow causing the truck to spin 180 degrees.
- A Cat 773 water truck slid on a previously watered section of road contacted the windrow and spun around through 270 degrees.
- A Juggernaut underground loader operator pulled up at a tag board. When he left the loader to remove his tag it rolled away coming to rest against the side wall.
- While entering a corner in wet conditions the driver of an empty Cat 773B dump truck was distracted by the two way radio microphone falling from its holding clip. As a result his braking through the corner was late causing the truck to skid and slide into the windrow.
- A Getman scissor lift platform was travelling downhill when the wheel bearing failed and the front wheel and axle detached.
- A semi trailer driver was loading his truck with concentrate when the truck rolled away coming to rest against the stockpile 10m metres away.
- A wheel disconnected from a light vehicle while it was travelling down a ramp.
- The park brake button on a parked PJB underground vehicle released as the door closed. The operator notified a tradesman to check the brake. The park brake activation valve was replaced and the vehicle returned to service.
- A Cat 930 dump truck veered off the road into a safety bund after the driver fell asleep at the wheel.
- A Terex 3700 dump truck operator travelling down a recently watered ramp noticed another dump truck come around the corner but slightly out into the middle of the road. When he applied the retarder the truck locked up and spun around clipping the oncoming truck.
- A Komatsu dump truck returning to the pit lost brakes at the top of the ramp leading into the

pit. Application of the retarder, foot brake and emergency brakes failed to slow the truck. The operator then applied the park brake which slowed the truck. It eventually stopped 20 metres from a working face after travelling a further one kilometre.

- A dump truck lost power, including to the retarder, as it was travelling down a ramp. The driver applied the emergency brakes and pulled it up in the windrow.

Explosion

- Overcharging of the battery in the fire detection panel in a train loadout control room resulted in production of gases above the lower explosive limit.
- The integrity of a continuous miner flameproof enclosure was compromised when an O ring was jammed under the door of the enclosure.
- The conductors on a shuttle car cable were exposed when the cable was pulled in half after the shuttle car drove too wide around a corner and the cable jammed against the side wall.
- Workers who were within 100 metres of an underground crusher ROM hopper where secondary blasting was taking place were not warned of the firing.
- A sulphide dust explosion occurred following a development firing.
- Flyrock from a blast penetrated the roof of a light vehicle parked in the pit during the firing.
- Thirty -three non-electric detonators exploded in a fire which was being used at a quarry to destroy supposedly empty explosives boxes and packaging after a blast.

Thermal – Fire

- A rag left on the turbo charger of a water truck caused a small fire.
- After a drill rig ran out of fuel the operator was bleeding the system before refuelling by removing the bleed valve from where fuel sprayed onto the turbo and ignited.
- A fire started on a Cat 785 water truck as result of a fractured fuel line spraying fuel onto exhaust manifold
- An hydraulic boom hose on a Liebherr 994 excavator leaked and sprayed oil onto the turbo guard resulting in a small fire.

- A fire started on a cat 854 rubber tyred dozer when welding slag dropped onto and ignited grease on the rear differential.
- A steer tyre on a Cat 797 dump truck caught fire. The driver left the truck and was taken outside exclusion zone. The fire was extinguished and the truck isolated for 24 hours.
- After refuelling, a driver left the nozzle behind the passenger steps of his prime mover. When he drove off the bowsers were dragged from their footings and crushed beneath the trailers of the truck.
- Spilt ANFO lying on the floor of a drive after blasthole charging on the previous shift reacted with acidic ground resulting in an exothermic reaction and the generation of thick black smoke.
- Gas ignited at the surface of a coal exploration borehole when a driller cut into the liner being raised from the hole.

Electrical

- A power cable was squashed against the rib by a roof bolting machine whilst tramming out of the face.
- A worker received an electric shock when he touched a solenoid “J” box that was lying on the ground with wires hanging out of it.
- A worker received an electric shock whilst working on a pump starter switchboard.
- When a loader which was being carried on the back of a truck passed under railway power lines at the entrance to a mine an arc occurred between the loader and power lines.
- An employee received an electric shock whilst removing the plug from a 240V GPO on a Lincoln 575 diesel welding set.
- An operator received an electric shock from the float switch of a sump pump.

Other

- During train loading operations a Cat D11 dozer was side cutting between two stockpiles when the stockpile slumped towards the dozer partially covering the cabin deck and damaging the hand rails.
- An employee was bitten by a snake while inspecting equipment stored in a sea container.

Serious Accidents and High Potential Incidents

Mining and quarrying



Mines Inspectorate

Released: 5 September 2008

Summary of reported incidents for period 1 May – 30 June 2008

1. Gravity – Fall of Person

- An employee of a blasting contractor was assisting with charging activities on a shot when he fell over the edge of the bench and landed on the quarry floor nine metres below. He sustained a gash to his head and cuts on his arms and legs.
- When the operator of a Cat 769 water cart climbed out of the cab and grasped the handrail it broke and the operator fell to the ground.
- A two metre temporary stairway erected to access a dragline roof collapsed beneath two workers when it was being lifted to put sleepers under the bottom tread.

2. Gravity – Fall of Equipment

- As a manganese crusher mantle was being lifted by crane to turn it over, the lifting lug broke off and the mantle fell onto the left foot of the employee supervising the lift. He was taken to hospital and subsequently had his toes amputated.
- A fitter on a dragline was unhooking the dump sheave from a crane when it fell over, landing on and fracturing his right foot.
- During assembly of a drill rig part of the mast became detached falling off and narrowly missing an operator.
- A piece of grid floor mesh approximately 300mm x 150mm fell five metres into a flotation cell below where workers were hosing.
- A portable lockout box fell five metres from the floor above and landed beside the mill reline crew.
- A worker was jacking up an MG set component in a dragline house when a 20 kg guard located on top of the MG set fell 1.8m onto his head resulting in a cut requiring seven stitches. The worker had removed his helmet to provide a better view of the component being raised.
- Backfilled material in a previously mined stope slumped when a loader drove over the area. The loader's front wheels and bucket went into the hole.
- A dozer drove into a coal stockpile and dropped into a cavity above the load out chute. The dozer was partly buried by coal.

- A dozer operator was cleaning up coal when the surface cracked away and the dozer slipped sideways off the bench.
- A dozer was clearing and stripping alongside a creek diversion when the bank gave way and the dozer slid into the creek.
- A dozer went over an overburden dump and slid into a waterhole.
- An operator was reversing an excavator to commence loading a dump truck when the right hand corner of the bench collapsed causing the excavator to topple over. The extended boom of the excavator hit the rear of the dump truck.

3. Gravity – Rockfall

- While an excavator was digging ore from a shot, part of the wall slipped down. Rocks struck the excavator bucket rams and windscreen.
- A rockfall of approximately two cubic meters was discovered on a decline. Two rock bolts had not been properly grouted.
- A surveyor was hit by a small rock on the helmet and hands while checking an underground development face.

4. Mechanical

- A worker, walking behind an Eimco loader which he thought was going to continue moving forward, had his right foot crushed by the engine compartment overhang when the loader reversed and dropped into a depression in the road. He subsequently had to have his foot amputated.
- An operator was removing liner bolts from a mill using a hydraulic hammer when it recoiled. His wrist was broken when his arm was struck between the hammer housing and a steel column.
- An operator pinched his hand between a bolt and drill rig slide as he was installing a bolt. He degloved his finger tips and possibly broke a finger.
- While cutting off a cable tray with a portable grinder the cutting wheel jammed causing the grinder to rebound and the wheel to contact the worker's forearm resulting in a deep cut.

- An operator strained his hand after his glove wrapped around the rotating drill steel during drilling operations with a Cram roof bolting rig.
- An operator sustained bruising after being struck by a compressed air line which ruptured during a sand blasting activity.
- At an exploration drill site a loaded core barrel struck a driller's offsider on the back as it was being lowered onto the rod truck when the retriever overshot and released the barrel from the wire line.
- At an exploration drill site a driller assistant's hand was trapped beneath a drill rod he was helping to transfer from a truck to the rod slew. He suffered fractures to the little and ring fingers of the left hand.
- An operator got his hand caught while trying to clean a conveyor roller.
- A drill rig with its mast in the raised position rolled onto its side while it was being repositioned on an uneven slope.
- While lifting a pump out of a 400 metre deep borehole a section of the drill rod support pipe broke after the assembly had been raised 150m. The pump, power cable and support pipe fell to the bottom of the hole. The drum, which the power cable had been wound onto, was pulled rapidly towards the collar of the hole.
- A cable reeler was letting out a 35mm diameter electric cable down a 48 metre vent raise when the cable reeler failed to hold the load and a further 20 metres came off the reel.
- While attempting to lift spare rigging off the deck of a coal prep plant the chains of a 50t crane caught on the webforge flooring, breaking the clips and lifting the floor panel and rigger 300mm into the air.
- A 25 tonne Franna crane toppled onto its side while unloading a semi-trailer.
- A fitter was preparing to change a hydraulic ram when he was sprayed by hydraulic oil under the residual pressure still in the hydraulic system after isolation.
- As the boom on a Kanga mini loader was lowered oil sprayed towards the operator from a hole in a worn hydraulic hose.
- The intermediate shaft on a screen deck exciter failed with the shaft ejected four metres onto the neighbouring screen.
- The drill string of a surface diamond drill rig unexpectedly broke through into an underground decline.

- A Freightliner truck operator was tipping a load when the body fell to the side after the bolts holding the hoist pulled through the chassis.
- While constructing a new storage shed the shed frame toppled over after temporary bracing was removed prior to installing permanent bracing.
- Whilst shotcreting underground, a piece of layflat hose ruptured, swung uncontrollably and momentarily pinned a worker against the wall.
- A rock thrown up by a blown tyre on a dump truck struck and penetrated the windscreen of a water truck 80 meters away.

5. Mechanical – Vehicle Collision

- A light vehicle overtook a rear dump truck whilst travelling up a ramp without establishing positive communication.
- A grader was going up a single lane ramp followed by a light vehicle. When the grader gave way to an unloaded truck coming down the ramp the light vehicle, without calling up, came out from behind the grader to overtake forcing the truck into an emergency stop.
- A Cat D11R Dozer struck a stockpile conveyor support trestle when dust obscured the operator's vision. The conveyor fell over and landed on the stockpile behind the dozer.
- A Cat 966 Loader was cleaning up coal spillage around a coal prep plant when it reversed into a trestle column supporting a pipe bridge and walkway.
- After an excavator had loaded a dump truck it revolved 360 degrees resulting in the bucket striking the truck cab.
- While loading a truck, a loader reversed into a light vehicle which had parked in the stockpile area for a hot seat change.
- While ascending a ramp a loaded truck veered across into the right side of the road and came into contact with the tray of truck coming down the ramp.
- A dozer operator started ripping the floor shortly after a hot seat change. The dozer contacted the troop carrier parked nearby while the operator was watching the rippers.
- A grader collided with a parked service truck when the grader operator bent down to pick up radio receiver.

- A Cat 797B rear dump contacted a P&H 4100 shovel breaking the top rail of the access stairs and penetrating the house.
- A water truck operator pushed a roller backwards for approximately 1.8 metres to park his water truck. The fitter who had been working on the roller was nearby.
- A Mack truck collided with the tray of a flat bed truck parked in a laydown area when the driver's vision was affected by the sun shining in his eyes. The passenger, who was not wearing a seatbelt, struck his head against the windscreen and his knees against the dashboard.
- A light vehicle was following a grader along an access road. The grader stopped at a 'stop' sign, proceeded onto the haul road and then stopped a short distance past the sign. The light vehicle moved up to the 'stop' sign and then saw the grader reversing towards his vehicle. The grader hit the light vehicle, pushing it back four metres and turning it through 90 degrees. It only stopped when a passing haul truck driver alerted the operator.
- The operator of a Toro loader, whose visibility was restricted by a full bucket of ore, was tramping on a mucking level when it collided with a light vehicle which was trying to reverse out of the loader's path.
- A dozer was cleaning up around a digger, and whilst reversing contacted a grader which was passing close behind.
- A Cat 785C dump truck contacted an Hitachi EX2500 excavator after the truck started reversing into position without positively confirming via two-way radio that the excavator operator was ready.

6. Mechanical – Vehicle Loss of Control

- A Toyota Land Cruiser was driving over a wet section of haul road when the driver lost control and the vehicle rolled onto its side.
- A light vehicle rolled on its side coming down a ramp which had recently been watered.
- A light vehicle rolled onto its roof after the driver lost control of the vehicle while moving from a wet to dry section of road.
- The driver of a Cat 797 dump truck lost control of his truck while travelling down a recently watered ramp and crashed into the berm.
- A Cat 637 scraper rolled on its side during top soil stripping removal when it started slipping on a wet

section and the operator applied the retarder as the scraper moved back onto dry ground.

- A water cart was watering a ramp when it lost traction. The truck slid approx 25 metres and rotated coming to rest against the berm.
- A Cat D11 dozer slipped off a bench and rolled over.
- The driver of a dump truck had a micro sleep, drifted off the road and woke when the truck contacted a pipe beside the road.
- While reversing up a ramp to tip a load at a mobile crusher a dump truck climbed a pile of previously dumped material and rolled onto its side.
- A service truck was reversing down a ramp when the wheels contacted the berm causing it to roll onto its side.
- Whilst negotiating a section of road, that had been reduced to one lane due to maintenance, the last two trailers of a loaded five trailer coal road train rolled onto their side and down an embankment.
- A scraper turned sharply down a ramp to exit a dump area and tipped on its side.
- The emergency brake on a Komatsu 785 dump truck had to be activated to stop the truck as it was driven into the workshop.
- While tramping an underground development drill rig through the pit to the workshop the operator's vision was restricted by dirty tramping lights and the rig's booms. The rig ran up a windrow and rolled onto its side.
- A parked dump truck rolled five metres into an embankment after the driver had left the truck.
- A worker parked his vehicle on a ramp and was working alongside it when it rolled away about 40 metres and came to a stop against a berm.
- A Cat 793C operator parked his truck after noticing that the steering was loose. The tie rod end ball had pulled out of the sleeve.
- A Cat 789 dump truck reversed into the dumping position and put the rear wheels through the safety bund.

7. Explosion

- While digging shot rock an excavator struck and initiated misfired explosives. Flyrock from the resulting blast, including a 20 kg rock, smashed the windscreen of the excavator and entered the cabin. The operator received abrasions on his right hand from the broken windscreen.

- While manoeuvring an explosives mobile production unit around loaded blast holes it travelled over a stemmed blast hole and down line, narrowly missing the spool.
- While charging a blast hole with emulsion explosives a reddish/brown mist was noticed coming from the blasthole. The pit and underground mine were immediately evacuated and the shot monitored from the edge of the exclusion zone.
- Flyrock damaged equipment on the limit of an exclusion zone.
- A unit was repairing a bund above an area where a blast crew were preparing to load pre-split holes. Some material fell down the wall into the area.
- An alarm system failed to operate when a coal conveyor carbon monoxide sensor and a methane sensor failed.
- A methane detector was incorrectly positioned on an underground gas drainage drill rig and would not have tripped if there was a high methane concentration.
- A deputy found an underground loader operating in a coal mine with the methane sensor covered by a plastic bag. The sensor had been covered on the previous shift when the loader had been washed down for a service.
- A flash occurred when a continuous miner cable was hooked by a shuttle car and damaged.

8. Thermal – Fire

- A boilermaker was grinding a pipe when a spark from the grinder ignited the acetylene torch which in turn burnt through the acetylene hose causing a flame directly onto the acetylene bottle. He burnt his fingers when he tried to turn off the melted valve.
- A fire started on an underground Normet explosives charge car when a rag was left in the engine bay. A hand held extinguisher as well as the AFFF system had to be used to extinguish the fire.
- A fire occurred on a Normet vehicle when the oil pressure sensor snapped off and oil sprayed onto the exhaust. The on board fire suppression system and an extinguisher were used to put it out.
- The boom arch hose on a Leibherr 944 digger burst and sprayed oil onto the engine turbo causing a fire.
- A fire started in the engine bay of a Komatsu PC1100 excavator after a fuel line ruptured.

- A small fire started on a Cat 785 water truck when a broken fuel line sprayed fuel onto the exhaust.
- A rag left near the turbo in the engine bay of a Terex 4400 truck caught fire.
- A conveyor stopped after a tail end pulley bearing failed. Excessive heat in the bearing housing caused the conveyor belt to catch on fire. Two workers extinguished the fire using fire hoses and extinguishers.

9. Electrical

- A 30 tonne excavator dug up a buried 415V power cable while clearing a pad adjacent to a wheel wash.
- When a fitter placed the head of a high torque onto a nut of the slew ring of an excavator he noticed sparks between the head and the nut.
- While assisting a shift electrician a coal prep plant operator was asked to press the button to operate the reject bin gates. The operator noticed the frame for the truck sensor on the ground and when he picked it up to move it he received an electric shock.
- An electrician isolated a gate end box to fault find. He opened the main door and noticed that the 110V power was still on. He closed the door and pushed the E/C test button however this still did not trip the box back to the transformer.
- A worker received an electric shock when he picked up the power lead feeding a water blaster. The lead had a cut through the outer sheath and into one phase.
- Two persons received an electric shock whilst using an Hitachi 3/4 rattle gun to tighten bolts.
- A fitter received an electric shock from a rattle gun.
- A coal prep plant worker received an electric shock from an extension lead when cleaning the female end of the lead while it was still powered.
- An electrician isolated a conveyor belt starter at the main and auxiliary isolators, but not at supply transformer. Before testing for dead he picked up the test leads and touched the terminals on the control transformer and received an electric shock.

10. Other

- Whilst disconnecting a line on an acid pump, a worker was sprayed with 1-2 litres of concentrated sulphuric acid, resulting in mild burns down his arm.

Serious Accidents and High Potential Incidents

Mining and quarrying



Mines Inspectorate

Released: 28 November 2008

Summary of reported incidents for period 1 July – 31 October 2008

1. Gravity – Fall of Person

- As a worker climbed down the ladder of a bulk fuel tank he lost his balance and fell, shattering his elbow.
- A Cat 785 dump truck operator fell from outside his cab to the ground fracturing his right wrist and ankle.
- A production driller was pulling rods on a hole adjacent to a one metre diameter back filled raisebored hole when the material in the hole slumped. A loader operator had drawn material from the raise.

2. Gravity – Fall of Equipment

- A drill fitter was working on a drill rig work table when the chain feed from the mast fell and struck him around the head and arm knocking him unconscious.
- When the thread on the drill head sub of an exploration drill rig broke the attached 140kg rod fell six metres striking the driller's offside a glancing blow on his shoulder and leg.
- Whilst demobilising a crane, the lifting chain broke away from the counterweight and hit the dogman on the leg causing a fracture.
- A Cat D11T dozer reversed over the edge of a 15 metre high bench coming to rest in a vertical position on a bed of loose coal heaped against the wall.
- When a Cat 789 dump truck backed up to a safety bund to dump the load the bund gave way, and the truck toppled backwards over the edge of the dump. Shortly before, a loader had been drawing material from the dump.
- A Cat 797 dump truck reversed through a wet safety rill at a dump.
- A Cat 793 dump truck reversed over a poorly constructed tip head bund.
- A dragline slipped into the pit when the pad it was sitting on gave way.

- An Elphinstone 1700 loader was tipping ore into an orepass when it breached the mullock stop log, fell into the pass and became wedged near the top of the pass.
- An excavator over-balanced and fell onto its side when the operator picked up a large rock and slewed the bucket around 90° to the tracks. The operator sustained bruising to his ribs.
- A 50 tonne excavator was moving an oversize rock when it tipped onto its side on the edge of a bench when it slewed the bucket around 90° to the tracks with the boom over the edge of the bench.
- While turning a corner on a decline a work basket dislodged from a forklift and fell to the ground.
- The roof of a vehicle underpass beneath a coal product conveyor collapsed due to an accumulation of coal fines.
- An overhead crane and a six tonne come-a-long were being used to lower an engine into a Cat D11R dozer when the come-a-long failed causing the rear of the engine to drop one metre.
- Whilst a section of a crane boom was being carried by a 12 tonne Franna crane, two webbing slings broke, causing the load to fall.
- A box containing a pump fell from a storage rack.
- A small section of angle iron sitting loosely in the web of an I-beam fell 20 metres to the ground as the beam was being lifted.

3. Gravity – Rockfall

- A trainer was struck and seriously injured when two large slabs of rock fell from the back while he was demonstrating to two trainees how to drill a hole into the back with a rising feed drill.

- Two geologists and a field technician entered a draw point to map and sample the face. A scat fell from the face and hit the upper left arm of one of the geologists.
- A rock bounced ten metres out of an open access to the bottom of a 393 metre raisebored shaft after material was dislodged from the collar of the shaft on the surface.
- A two tonne rockfall was found in an underground travelway.
- A continuous miner had advanced four metres when it was pulled back to trim the corner. As the miner began to trim the corner a block of coal, 3m x 1.5m x 0.8m, slipped and sat against the cutter head. As this was being cleaned up a second block of similar size fell.
- After blasting a longwall belt chamber a 7mx3.5mx2m section of the adjacent supported roof collapsed.
- After water had been run into a pass, to assist in clearing a hang-up, explosives were placed in the pass beneath the hang-up. When the explosives were fired the hang-up dropped and a mud rush occurred.
- Shortly after surveyors had left a bench approximately 70,000 tonnes fell from the pit wall and onto the bench.
- Some rocks fell from a highwall and landed outside a bunded area at the toe with one small rock striking the windscreen of a light vehicle which was about ten metres from the bund.
- A rock fell from a bench face on to a drill rig that was being serviced.
- A rock fell from a high wall hitting the ground before striking a parked light vehicle seventeen metres from the toe.
- A rock fell from a wall onto and over a windrow in a narrowed down section of ramp as a truck was about to travel past.
- Approximately 100 tonnes of rock fell from a highwall above presplit blast holes.
- When a dozer pushed a small amount of material over a high wall a lump of mud bounced across the pit floor and struck a driller who was working outside the exclusion zone.

- The activities of a dozer working on a bench disturbed the safety bund causing a large rock to roll down, breaching bunds on two lower benches before impacting an excavator.
- Approximately 8000bcm of material slumped from an end wall onto a ramp.
- Highwall material slumped 20-30m onto a bench.
- A stockpile slumped onto a Cat D11 dozer during pushing operations.
- While rock was discharging from a conveyor onto a stockpile the plant operator removed a piece of timber from the stockpile. He was struck on the hand and arm by a rock and sustained lacerations.

4. Mechanical

- A worker sustained fatal injuries when he was struck by a retractable wing he was removing from an Extec C12 Mobile Crusher.
- An employee was struck in the face by the crowbar he was using to unblock rocks caught in the jaws of an energised crusher.
- The operator of a Hy-Torque multiplier wrench sustained a high pressure oil injection injury to his hand when the pressurised swivel head failed.
- A driller's offsider lost tip of right hand index finger while working with a breakout tool on a UDR1000 exploration rig.
- A timberman was moving an air line, when a butterfly valve on the bottom of the dropper unexpectedly opened, causing the air line to whip around and strike the timberman in the face. The worker was treated at the hospital for lacerations.
- A drill crew member was struck on the chest and face by the end of the Kelly rod 'rathole' drain hose when compressed air was accidentally released through a Kelly rod.
- A mechanic severed his left thumb at the first knuckle while placing a heavy duty lifting chain onto a chain rack.
- A fitter was working on a pump when he was hit on the head by chains hanging from a

crane hook which swayed after the crane stopped.

- A drill jumbo offsider went to change a drill bit while the operator was still feeding the rod forward. He pinched his hand between the front centraliser and the bit sustaining lacerations and a fractured knuckle.
- A fitter who was under a Cat 777D dump truck preparing to inspect the A frame bearing had to get out from under the truck when his colleague in the driver's cab reversed the truck, pushing the rear chock back one metre then moved the truck forward and drove over the front chock.
- As a shuttle car moved off it started to slide towards a worker standing adjacent to the coal rib. The driver stopped the car before contact was made.
- A worker was trapped between a drill rig platform and the coal rib, when the platform was moved.
- After the power tripped to a continuous miner, the drill rig operator leaned across to reset the rig and accidentally hit the control levers. As he did so the power was restored. The drill pot retracted and pinned the operator.
- While carrying out vent bag work from the basket of a Cat IT28 the operator in the basket was caught between the basket and the back.
- While lifting a work basket, the operator put the hoist lever into the neutral position. The movement of the basket failed to stop and continued upwards for 0.2m.
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- A rock was projected by the rock ejector between position 5&6 tyres into the operator's cabin of a dump truck as he moved forward after dumping his load at the tip head.
- A drag rope was being cut with an oxy-acetylene torch. When the rope had been cut through, the tension was released and the rope brushed across the operator's chest.
- A winch rope was attached to a conveyor belt to pull it into position. The rope broke when the securing chain on the winch rope deflection sheave block failed and the winch rope impacted the conveyor structure. The

unrestrained belt ran back down the structure and heaped at the bottom of the ramp.

- During a conveyor belt change-out, the belt splicing team took up some slack near the head pulley. This resulted in the belt inadvertently moving 3m at the tail end where a separate crew were working on a different task. This crew had to pull themselves up on support bracing to avoid the belt.
- A mobile transformer was being towed up an incline by a loader when a 12 tonne bow shackle pulled apart. The transformer rolled down the ramp for 120 metres before crashing into a conveyor.
- A transformer rolled down a slight slope and jammed high voltage cables into the cable basket of a loader while two employees were working between the transformer and the basket.
- A rota-coupling on inter-chock hoses between longwall shields ruptured causing the hose coupling to whip and spray high pressure emulsion.
- The bolts on the wheel split rim assembly of a Cat DP19NT forklift were incorrectly installed facing outwards instead of inwards.

5. Mechanical – Vehicle Collision

- A Cat 789 dump truck and a light vehicle collided at a mine ramp intersection. The rear wheels of the dump truck ran over and crushed the front section and the passenger side of the light vehicle. The light vehicle driver sustained non life threatening injuries but was trapped in the vehicle. Cutting equipment was used to free him.
- A light vehicle collided with a trailer of a combination road hauler as it attempted to turn onto a haul road.
- As a light vehicle entered an intersection the driver initially failed to see a Cat 785C dump truck approaching from his left. Both vehicles slowed and braked, avoiding a collision. The light vehicle came to a stop within five metres of the truck.
- Two Cat 776D bottom dump trucks nearly collided when one turned onto the wrong side of a haul road at an intersection and into the

path of the oncoming truck. Both drivers took evasive action to avoid contact.

- A loaded Cat 785C dump truck rounded a corner and collided with Cat D11 dozer.
- The driver of a Cat 793 dump truck believed he had positioned his truck too close to the load face. He reversed the truck and it contacted the handrails of the truck waiting thirty metres behind.
- Two 50 tonne Komatsu dump trucks were parked one behind the other waiting to be loaded by an excavator. The rear truck operator turned round to retrieve something, took his foot off the brake and rolled into the front truck. The tray of the front truck smashed the rear truck's windscreen and bent the handrails.
- As a truck passed under a conveyor it came into contact with the conveyor structure.

6. Mechanical – Vehicle Loss of Control

- A Cat 797 dump truck slid on an over watered corner at the bottom of the ramp and went into an uncontrolled slide.
- A trainee Cat 785 dump truck driver, under supervision, was following a water truck down a ramp when he lost control of the truck as it slid on the wet clay surface into a 180° turn.
- A Moxi truck lost traction and control while driving along a haul road and partially breached the centre bund wall.
- A service truck rolled over on a curved section of road that had just been watered.
- A Volvo rigid water truck lost traction while travelling down a grade. The operator applied the brakes causing the truck to slide into a bund where it overturned on its side.
- A Cat 785 dump truck was coming up a ramp with a load when the driver fell asleep and the truck veered off the road into the toe of the low wall.
- The driver of a Cat 789 dump truck had a micro sleep. The truck veer left and clipped a road delineation tyre.
- A Cat 785 dump truck driver heard a noise behind his seat. He turned to look for the

source and pulled on the steering wheel resulting in the truck driving off the road.

- A dozer rolled down the face of a stockpile whilst pushing forward when the right hand track lost traction.
- While walking down onto a bench a dozer slid sideways and rolled onto its side.
- A Cat 16H Grader was trimming a drain batter when it slid down to the bottom of the batter and tipped over onto its side.
- A scraper tipped on its side while constructing a dam wall.
- A Volvo R32 rigid dump truck stalled while reversing down a ramp to tip. It rolled down the ramp and into a windrow where it tipped onto its side.
- A driftrunner was going down a ramp when the methane cut out system activated cutting the engine. The emergency brake did not immediately activate so the vehicle travelled a further twenty metres before the operator brought the machine to a stop at the side of the ramp.
- A Volvo service truck moved forward four metres and came to rest against a coal stockpile when the operator engaged the PTO in high idle to commence fuelling.
- A parked light vehicle rolled away down a ramp for about 500 metres.

7. Explosion

- The real time gas monitoring system at an underground coal mine was not in position and in working order for 10 days. The Mine Manager was only made aware of the incident two weeks later.
- The trip setting of 5% was found on the general body methane sensor of a continuous miner. The setting was detected during a routine calibration.
- A non certified relay was installed into an intrinsically safe circuit of a gas monitoring system.
- A flameproof light on shuttlecar was damaged and was not discovered until routine checks were carried out.

- A flameproof junction box was found to be operating in an ERZ1 area without a flame proof gland fitted.
- The flameproofing on a continuous miner was compromised by poor cable termination in the gland entry of the cutter motors.
- There was an arc flash when a short circuit developed in a longwall shearer MG cutter motor junction box. The box was found to have 70mm of water in the bottom of it.
- A shuttlecar cable failed to unreel when the shuttlecar drove off from the boot-end. The cable pulled apart exposing the conductors and causing an open arc.
- A worker was hooking up a ring of underground production blast holes when the explosives in two holes suddenly started burning. The mine was evacuated.
- During a quarry blast flyrock landed outside the exclusion zone and also struck fixed plant within the exclusion zone.

8. Thermal Fire

- Oil ignited in the engine compartment of a Franna crane when the turbo seal failed.
- A fire started on a Cat 785 dump truck after oil sprayed from a cracked oil line onto the turbo.
- There was a fire on an O&K RH170 shovel after a hydraulic hose failed and sprayed oil onto the top deck.
- The left hand turbo on a Cat D11R track dozer caught fire due to an oil build up from a leaking gasket.
- A fire started after oil sprayed from a burst hydraulic hose over a drill rig turbocharger.
- When a grader caught fire the operator was unable to extinguish it with the extinguishers on the grader. Proximity to overhead power lines prevented the ERT and Fire Service from approaching the grader to extinguish the fire.
- While refuelling a jumbo some fuel vented through the tank overflow and splashed onto the turbo causing a fire.
- While refuelling a Cat 740 dump truck fuel splashed onto the hot turbo causing a fire.

- A boilermaker was lancing a module retaining pin on a CAT 773B service truck, when the truck caught fire. The truck was destroyed.
- A "B" double prime mover was severely damaged by fire after the front right tyres on the first trailer burst into flames.

9. Electrical

- A boilermaker who had wet clothes and gloves from working in the rain received an electric shock when changing electrodes on a welder which was fitted with a VRD.
- A person received an electric shock off a caddy welding unit when he contacted the frame of the unit.
- An earth lead from a faulty welding machine was connected to a dump truck. When a worker was fitting a lock to the lockout he received an electric shock.
- A worker received an electric shock from a 4 inch grinder which had wet and damaged lead.
- Open arcing occurred when an electrician cut an energised lighting cable whilst removing cables. He incorrectly traced the cable in a loom and identified it as de-energised.
- A non-electrical person was instructed to access a control cubicle using a tool provided by an electrician and reach through live terminals to reset an overload
- An electrician opened a shuttlecar cable reel junction box without isolating the machine at the DCB.
- Overhead power lines were knocked down when struck by a raised dump truck body.

10. Other

- A water pump tripped out due to over heating. When an operator went down to top up the pump with coolant, the radiator cap blew off, spraying vaporised coolant into his face. He suffered facial burns.
- A worker was disconnecting a line of hypochlorite solution from a bulk bin when the solution splashed up into his face. He suffered minor chemical burns.

- A worker stepped back onto a grate covering a drain in an acid plant. The grate gave way and lower leg became immersed in steam condensate. He suffered burns to his lower leg.
- A worker was using a hose to transfer coolant from a bulk drum to a generator radiator. He sucked on the hose to get the coolant to syphon and ingested some coolant. He was taken to hospital and admitted to intensive care.
- A pump pontoon overturned whilst the operator was starting the pump motor. The operator was wearing a personal flotation device and was uninjured.
- An underground coal mine was evacuated due to an increase in carbon monoxide levels in the longwall goaf exceeding the TARP level.
- At an underground coal mine high levels of carbon monoxide were detected from a new seal mixture product being used to construct a 140kPa seal.
- A jumbo miner had bored the front row of rock bolt holes in a drive, and then started scaling the face prior to installing the bolts. Water was coming out of a corner of the face. As he scaled, a large volume of water started flowing causing the operator to evacuate the drive.