NSW GOVERNMENT

NSW Resources Regulator

WEEKLY INCIDENT SUMMARY

Week ending Friday 11 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.

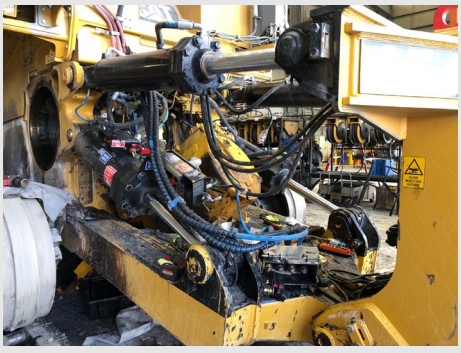
At a glance

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

TYPE	NUMBER
Reportable incident total	54
Summarised incident total	3

Summarised incidents

INCIDENT TYPE	SUMMARY	COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0041565 Open cut coal Fire or explosion 	A fire occurred on a mobile manufacturing unit (MMU) truck after it returned empty from the pit. The operator was checking the machine and observed a flame coming from above a cover over exhaust components behind the rear of the cab. Flames were visible about 10 centimetres high at the top of the cover. He extinguished the flame with a hand-held extinguisher. A preliminary investigation indicated that small amounts of explosive emulsion dripped off the delivery hose and accumulated on top of the cover. The build-up contaminated the insulation behind the cover and on top of the unshielded exhaust components. The	Owners of mobile manufacturing units should assess potential ignition points that make contact with raw or finished product. Areas where spillage may accumulate should have engineering controls in place to minimise the risk of fire. MMU operators should regularly inspect for spillage and should be trained to manage any spillage of emulsion.

	heat from the exhaust components ignited the hydrocarbons in the explosive product, resulting in a small fire. 	
Dangerous incident IncNot0041570 Open cut coal	While removing the transmission from a dozer, two bolts attaching the lifting device to the transmission failed, allowing the transmission to fall onto the ripper frame of the dozer. Nobody was injured. A preliminary investigation suggested incorrect-sized bolts were used to connect the lifting rig to the transmission. 	When procedures are developed for lifting tasks, relevant details, such as bolt sizes, should be included to allow workers to safely conduct lifting tasks.

Dangerous incident
IncNot0041594
Underground coal
Roads or other vehicle operating areas

A light vehicle with two passengers on board drove up onto a windrow at the top of a tailings dam, tipping the vehicle onto the passenger's side. Both occupants exited through the driver's side door and were uninjured.
The windrow was constructed of light material and was quite narrow.

Mine operators should ensure that bunds are designed, constructed and maintained to a standard that is suitable to protect workers from harm.
Principal hazard management plans for roads or other vehicle operating areas should consider factors that may affect operator visibility such as sunlight, fog, or dust.
Vehicle operators must maintain situational awareness and remain focused on the task to manage risks while driving.

Other publications of interest

The incidents are included for your review. The NSW Resources Regulator does not endorse the findings or recommendations of these incidents. It is your legal duty to exercise due diligence to ensure the business complies with its work health and safety obligations.

PUBLICATION	ISSUE/TOPIC
	International (other, non-fatal)
Worksafe NZ	A CAT 789 dump truck was to be serviced by a mechanic in a truck-parking area during a lunch break. The mechanic arrived and parked their light vehicle about 3 metres in front and slightly off to the left-hand side of the truck. The driver of the adjacent truck was having a break in the cab. The truck driver finished their break, started the truck, and drove forward and to the right out of the parking area. As the truck operator drove from the park the front wheel of the truck just missed the rear of the light vehicle. However, the back wheel ran over the back of the tray. The truck operator drove off unaware of the collision. Details

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.

DOCUMENT CONTROL	
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