REPORTABLE INCIDENTS | WHS MINES LEGISLATION

Weekly incident summary

27 July 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. 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

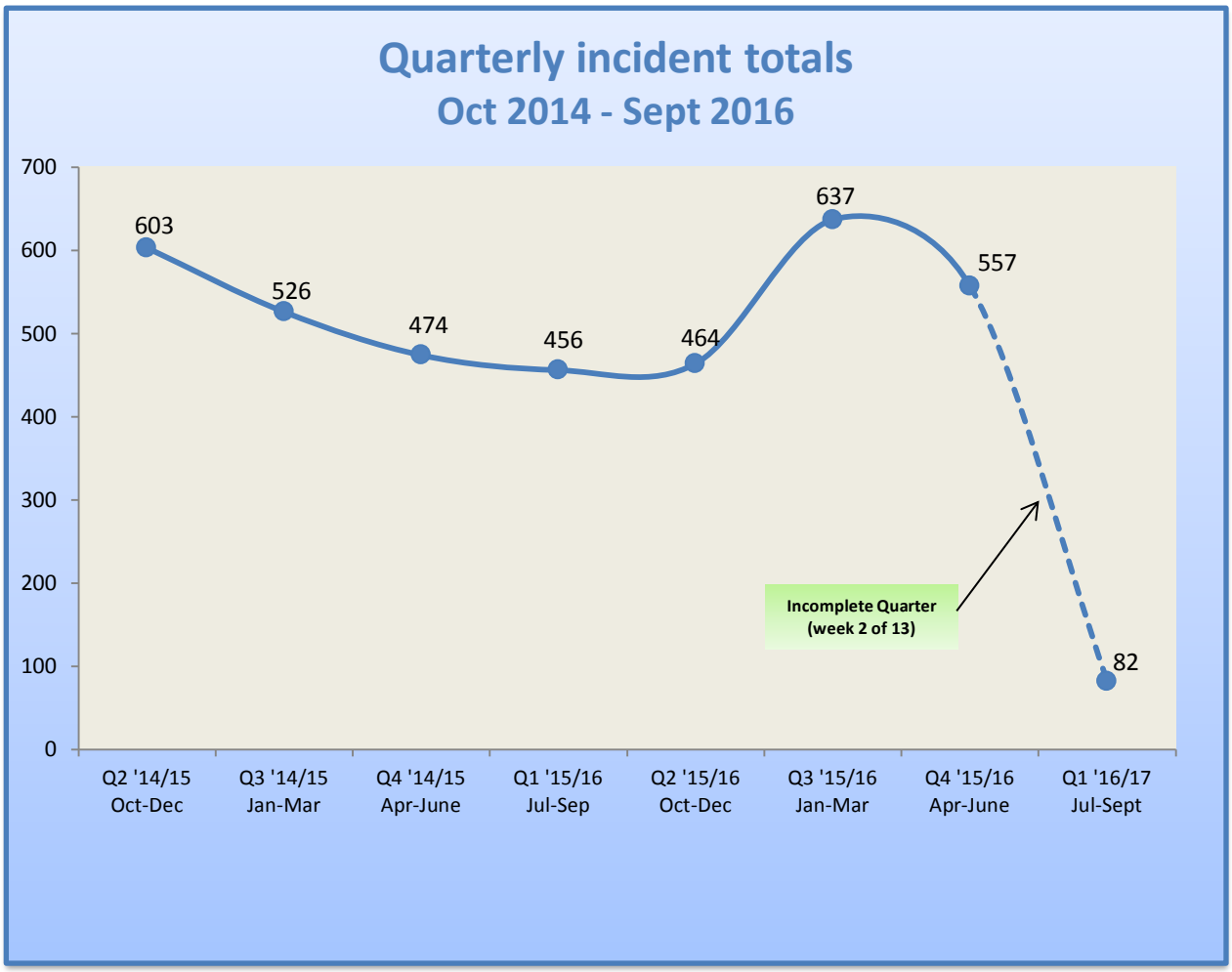
Reportable incidents total: 42 Summarised Incidents: 10

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
Serious Injury SinNot 2016/073	Suspected fluid injection to fitters hand whilst torqueing bolts on dozer track idler.	Mine Operators should have clear instruction for the safe and proper use of tools that include pre-use equipment inspections. Furthermore, proper equipment storage and transport using fit for purpose covers and/or cases is also recommended.
Dangerous Incident SinNot 2016/72	Unplanned movement of equipment. A man was operating an Elevated Work Platform (EWP) tramming onto a low loader truck when the low loader truck rolled away 25 metres before colliding with large skip bins that halted the tuck movement.	Transport management systems should include procedures for vehicle park up. In all cases, the vehicle operator should ensure the vehicle is fundamentally stable by applying the park brake and engaging the gears as a minimum. Wheel chocks should also be considered, particularly when parking on a grade.
Dangerous Incident SinNot2016/0050	Two haul trucks clipped mirrors- both mirrors were torn off. Trucks were driving in opposite directions. Neither driver realised at the time – one noticed at the bin and the other noticed at the digger. Reported to the OCE who found the remains of the mirrors at the incident site. Trucks were then parked up. No issues with the trucks were identified in the	Glare from the sun can impact on a vehicle operator's ability to identify oncoming vehicles and/or other obstacles on the road. All vehicles should have visors or other devices made available such that visibility is not impaired whilst driving towards the sun. Mine Operators should remind vehicle operators to slow down or stop the vehicle if visibility is impaired. Additionally, roadway design should consider

Incident type	Summary	Comment to industry
	preliminary investigation.	segregation of traffic flows to eliminate the potential for collision with oncoming traffic.
Dangerous Incident SinNot 2016/0048	Operator was descending from grader when the ladder started to rise and the operator fell to the ground striking his head.	Mine Operators should remind workers of their obligation to follow the correct operating procedures at all times. This may involve routine inspection by supervisors to verify correct operation in line with SWP. It should also be noted that correct maintenance strategy should align with OEM recommendations.
High Potential Incident SinNot 2016/069	Uncontrolled escape of carbon dioxide into longwall return from a floor break associated with a geologically disturbed area.	Mines should review relevant control measures for ventilation of extraction panels including targeting of gas drainage down-holes at geological structures with potential of higher gas release. The ventilation system should be designed to manage such gas pushes from floor breaks and the safety of personnel.
Dangerous Incident SinNot2016/0061	Positrack vehicle was being used to clean under a conveyor. The operator was concentrating on the bucket to ensure it did not strike the structure and struck a pipe with the cab smashing a windscreen.	Machines used for work in areas with restricted access should be fit for purpose. In such cases the work area should be assessed for hazards which may impact the use of the machine.
Dangerous Incident SinNot 2016000/049	Hydraulic failure leading to a release of fluid – operator sprayed with oil. A hydraulic tensioner was being used to tighten bolt in a rotary breaker during routine maintenance.	For devices such a hydraulic tensioners that can generate high pressures and at times are used irregularly, regular maintenance and pre-use inspections are important.
Dangerous Incident SinNot 2016/0080	While loading rock from a quarry blast a rock, approximately 23 kg in weight, fell approximately 17m out of the face. The rock bounced from the bucket arm of a front end loader and through the operator cab windscreen. The operator sustained minor injuries. The bench height had been significantly increased without reassessing the risk and providing appropriate loading equipment.	Mobile mining equipment should be fit for purpose and be matched to the work activity undertaken. Supervisors and workers should inspect the workplace at regular intervals to ensure the workplace is safe and without risk. Risk assessments and Work Method Statements for loading from blasted rock piles should assess the risk of rocks/material falling from height.
Dangerous Incident SinNot 20160/068	An integrated tool carrier (IT) rolled onto its side whilst transporting flexible pipe up a ramp at a surface mining operation. The vehicle had to reverse on a narrow path and the wheels engaged soft material causing it to roll over. The operator was not injured.	Mine Operators should ensure that workers conduct effective risk assessments. In this incident a JSA was not conducted and consideration was not given to the ability of the IT to complete the task of moving up the ramp with the flexible pipe load.

Incident type	Summary	Comment to industry
Serious Injury SinNot 2016/0062	Whilst walking backwards directing a fork lift in an oil store, a worker slipped on the oily floor and fell backwards. The operator's helmet fell off and his head struck the floor. No serious injury.	Poor housekeeping led to an 'oil on concrete' slippery surface. The worker walking backwards added to the risk/injury outcome. Mine Operators should ensure planned inspections are conducted and consider bunds to contain spills/ drips and measures to mitigate oily surfaces



Recent incident publications

No recent incident notifications.

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 one of our offices:

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