



SAFETY ALERT

WORKERS INJURED AFTER FALL FROM ELEVATED WORK PLATFORM (EWP)

INCIDENT

Two mine operators were injured when they fell from an EWP at an underground mine. The operators were not seriously injured.

CIRCUMSTANCES

The two operators were working in an underground mine installing services from a basket on an EWP. The basket tipped over and the two operators fell to the ground. The basket was approximately two metres above the ground when they fell.

INVESTIGATION

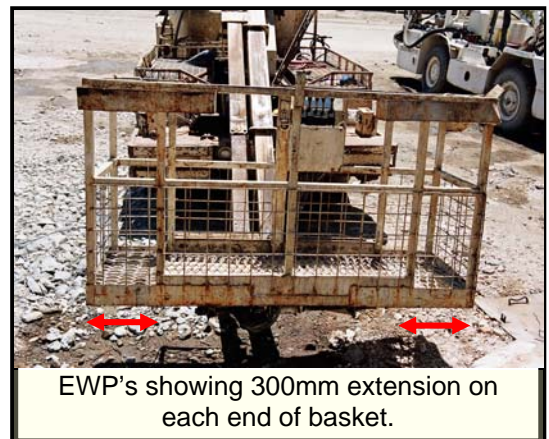
Investigations are continuing. However, contributing factors include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. The size of the basket had been enlarged 300mm on each end during recent maintenance.
2. The rated capacity of the EWP may have been exceeded (number of occupants).
3. The two operators were not wearing safety harnesses.
4. The manufacturer's manuals for the use and maintenance of the EWP were not available at the mine.

RECOMMENDATIONS

All mines using EWP's should:

- Review Risk Assessments and Safe Work Procedures for the operation and maintenance of EWP's;
- Ensure EWP's are operated and maintained to the manufacturer's specifications ;
- Review Relevant Australian Standards – in particular AS 1418.10 and AS 2550.10 for EWP's;



- Ensure EWP's are fit for purpose;
- Ensure that every time a modification is undertaken on equipment or machinery a risk assessment is completed;
- Ensure that any modification is carried out without a reduction in safety and in compliance with relevant legislation; and
- Ensure persons operating and maintaining EWP's are competent.

Signed

JOHN MOSS

AREA MANAGER CENTRAL WEST - MINE SAFETY OPERATIONS

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