

SAFETY ALERT



CONTINUOUS MINER DRILL RIG FATALLY CRUSHES TRADESMAN

INCIDENT

A mechanical tradesman was fatally injured as a result of the inadvertent/accidental operation of a continuous miner's roof bolting rig.

CIRCUMSTANCES

The fitter was carrying out maintenance tasks to the roof bolting rig attached to the right hand side of a Joy 12CM29 continuous miner. He suffered crush injuries as a result of being caught between the the rig and the superstructure of the continuous miner. He was working alone at the time, during a meal break, and it appears there were no direct witnesses to the immediate accident.

INVESTIGATION

An investigation by the Investigation Unit of the NSW Department of Mineral Resources is underway to determine the factors involved in this incident.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

Managers and Engineers of Coal Mines are reminded of Safety Alert SA 99/12 dated 14/07/99. The circumstances are similar. The recommendations are also directly applicable. In particular isolation procedures need to be reviewed or developed to have particular concern with restoring power for adjustments. Managers should also address basic hazard recognition and control skills training as a priority.

For more information contact Ray Smith, Inspector of Mechanical Engineering, on (02) 65721899 or mobile 0418 681023.

P. Healey
CHIEF INSPECTOR OF COAL MINES