

Week ending 24 January 2018


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	35
Summarised incident total	10

Summarised incidents

Incident type	Summary	Recommendations to industry
Dangerous incident SinNot-2018/00100	<p>A fire occurred on a dozer. The operator saw smoke coming from in front of the radiator. The operator stopped the machine, called emergency, initiated the fire suppression system and exited the machine. The fire was extinguished about an hour later with help from a water cart.</p> 	<p>This incident is currently being investigated by the Resources Regulator.</p>

<p>Workplace fatality SinNot-2018/00099</p>	<p>A contract worker was driving an articulated dump truck when control was lost and the truck ran off the road into a drain. The worker was found unresponsive and died despite efforts of his co-workers and ambulance officers to resuscitate him.</p>	<p>This incident is currently being investigated by the Resources Regulator.</p>
<p>Dangerous incident SinNot-2018/00096</p>	<p>A dump truck exited a dump and was proceeding down a 10% grade when the truck started to slide. It slid for about 80 m before it started to turn. The driver braked and the truck slid over the centre line of the road. The speed at the start of the slide was 24kph and reached up to 29 kph during the incident. The truck was empty. The road had been watered and had a 4 m dry line.</p>	<p>Mine operators should review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → procedures associated with water carts wetting roads and the appropriateness of dry lines → how wet roads are assessed for use → how hazards associated with wet roads are communicated.
<p>Dangerous incident SinNot-2018/00092</p>	<p>A worker was greasing a front-end loader from a mobile service truck when the hose failed. The worker was not injured but was about 0.5 m from the point of hose failure at the time it failed. The hose was rated to 5000psi and the working pressure supply from the pump was about 2500psi.</p>	<p>The frequency of maintenance should be addressed and change-out of hoses needs to consider the application and duty cycle of the hose.</p>
<p>Serious injury SinNot-2018/00085</p>	<p>A fitter working on a 25 tonne excavator fell off the stairs when exiting the machine. The operator fell about 2 m, landing heavily on ground.</p>	<p>Mine operators should review their machines against <i>AS 1657 Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders - Design, construction and installation</i> and against the original equipment manufacturer's (OEM) design.</p> <p>Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety alert SA14-05 Mine worker injured after falling from grader access ladder

- [IIR Worker seriously injured in fall from articulated dump truck.](#)

Dangerous incident
SinNot-2018/00081

A worker was hit in the face by a return hose when it whipped around (unrestrained) after roof consolidation product (mineseal) was returned to the re-circulation tank.

Mine operators should implement systems that verify that workers follow the procedures provided when setting up for jobs.

Any major change to work practices should follow a change management process, which includes communication and training of the workforce.

Dangerous incident
SinNot-2018/00080

An excavator was deck loading overburden in the pit. The operator saw oil on both tracks and communicated to the trucks and dozer in the area that he had an oil leak. The operator positioned the machine for better access and then noticed smoke and fire in the engine bay of the machine. The operator shut down the machine, initiated the fire suppression and called an emergency. The fire was extinguished. Further inspection identified that a bolt was missing from the hydraulic fitting attached to the fan drive motor on power pack 1, allowing the release of hydraulic oil to be blown over the motor resulting in the initiation of a fire. There was no visible damage to the machine.

Mine operators should engage with OEMs to investigate methods of reducing the surface temperatures of engine components.

Mine operators should review their maintenance and pre-use inspections to include all components of hydraulic circuits that can practically be inspected.

Dangerous incident
SinNot-2018/00074

A worker was weed spraying near and old underground sealed entrance. As he walked towards the entrance he noticed an unusual smell and felt lightheaded. He walk out of the area and contacted the supervisor. The operator continued work.

Mine operators should review the potential access to any old underground adits on site and potential for gasses to layer in gullies and old box cuts

The adequacy of seals for old underground mine workings should also be reviewed.

Dangerous incident
SinNot-2018/00068

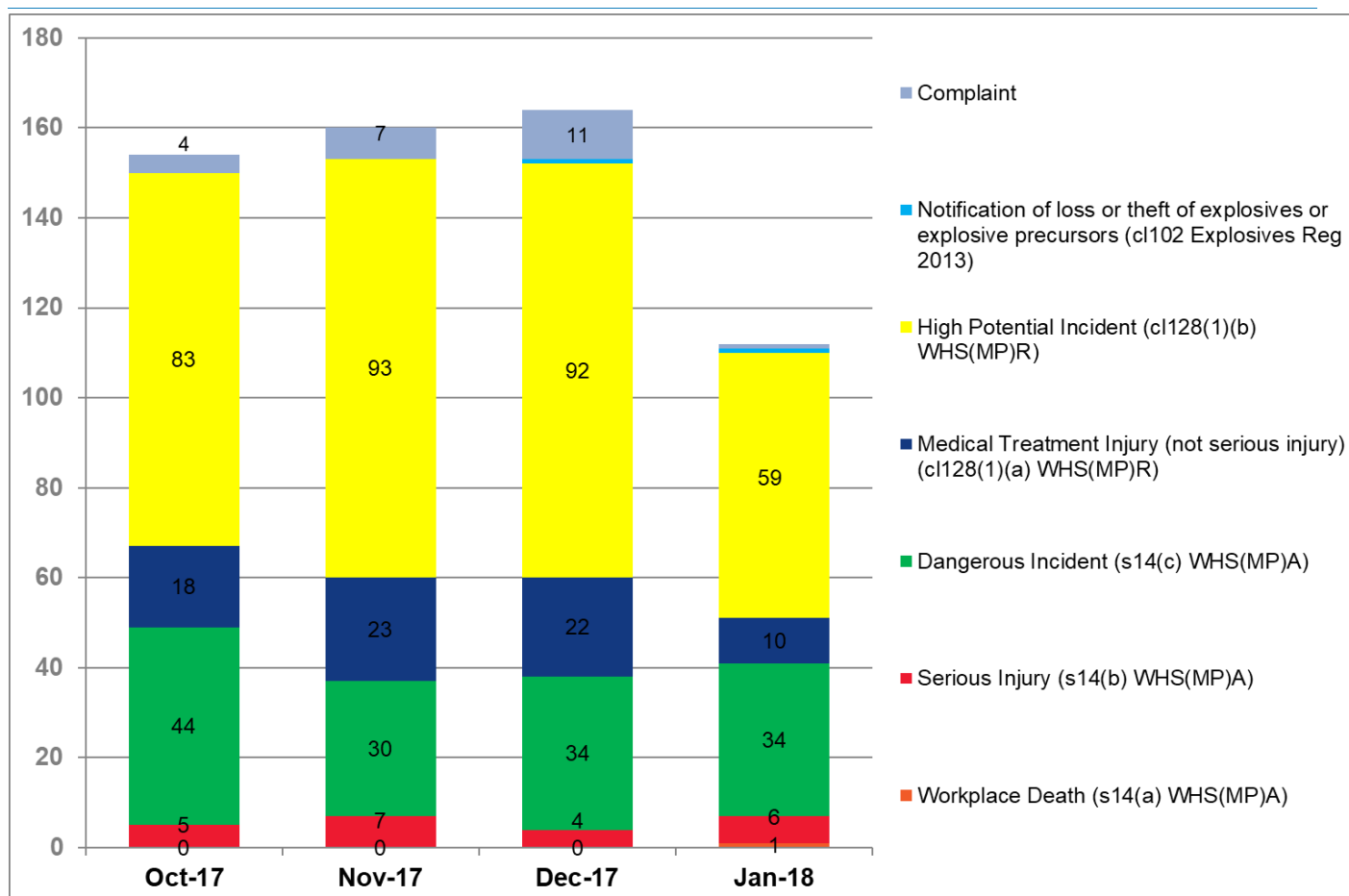
A dump truck was reversing up a stockpile when the truck's trailer rolled over. The cab remained upright. The driver was not injured.

Mine operators should review their dumping procedure, especially hazards associated with reversing up a stockpile around unconsolidated ground.

Dangerous incident
SinNot-2018/00064

A maintenance contractor was fault finding on a mobile crusher while it was running. The crusher was empty at the time and a jaw plate had become loose. The plate was thrown about 15 m into the air. It then hit the control panel hatch that the contractor was standing under. This resulted in the hatch and plate hitting the contractor on the head. He was knocked down and suffered a laceration required five stitches.

Pre-task job assessments must be undertaken before the commencement of any task.



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.

Recent publications

- [Resources Regulator Business Activity Report](#)

Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information on which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NSW Department of Planning and Environment or the user's independent advisor.

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