Weekly incident summary

NSW RESOURCES REGULATOR

Week ending 19 September 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	38
Summarised incident total	4

Summarised incidents

Incident type	Summary	Recommendations to industry
Serious injury SinNot-2018/01518	Two workers were conducting surface environmental monitoring in a remote location when one worker has slipped over and broke his ankle. The worker was evacuated from by helicopter for treatment.	Mine emergency plans and procedures must include response requirements for workers in remote areas. This must include communication methods, immediate response and evacuation of injured workers.
Dangerous incident SinNot-2018/01509	A loader hit a light vehicle in an underground metalliferous mine. The loader was tramming towards a workshop and up an incline when it hit the vehicle, which was parked and being washed down by a worker.	When dealing with the risk of a collision involving mobile plant, the hierarchy of controls should be followed. Systems such as collision detection and avoidance systems, visual aids and segregation should be implemented before relying on procedural controls.

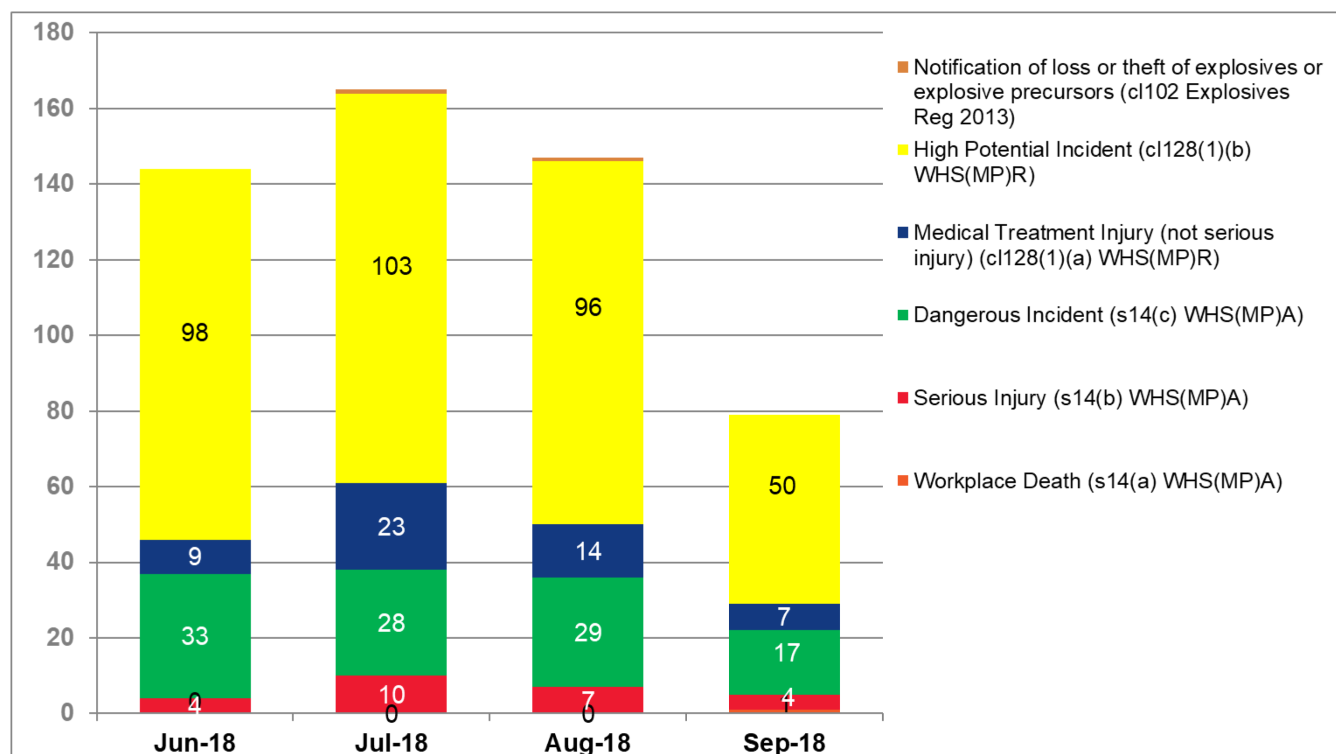
Dangerous incident SinNot-2018/01507	An inner rear tyre failure occurred ejecting several large pieces of rubber (up to 11 kg) up to 200 metres from a truck.	Work Health and Safety (Mines and Petroleum Sites) Regulation 2014 clause 179 Dangerous incidents *(a) (iv) an uncontrolled escape of a pressurised substance* is applicable to tyre failures and must be reported immediately to the Central Assessment Unit (CAU).

Dangerous incident SinNot-2018/01486	A contract electrician had isolated a circuit at a main control panel and he was in the process of replacing a J box. During assembly the electrician touched the earth wire and felt a 'buzz in his fingers.	When isolating, the risk of induction induced energy must be considered.

Other publications of note

Publication	Issue / Topic
	National (fatal)
WA Dept of Mines	Fatal accident – a haul truck operator loses control descending ramp on haul road • The truck exceeded the speed at which the electric braking system could stop it. • The service or mechanical brake was not engaged for an emergency stop. Details
WorkSafe NZ	• **Multiple crane failures lead to death and injury** • A man in his late 40s died, a man in his 20s sustained life-threatening injuries and a third man sustained non-life-threatening injuries when a kibble containing concrete fell

	from a *Raimondi* hammerhead tower crane and struck three workers, shortly after noon on Thursday. • [Details]
National (other, non-fatal)	
Komatsu	• **GSN0161 Underground roof supports** • The purpose of this Safety Notice is to advise customers of the potential for **stress corrosion cracking** (SCC) to compromise the hydraulic integrity of leg **pilot operated check valves** (POCVs) on Joy **Powered Roof Supports** (PRSs) operating in environments that contain ammonia or associated chemical amines. •
Veolia	• **High potential near miss (SHEQ alert 17)** • A high potential near miss event occurred when an electrician installing a pump VSD, inserted a bolt into a mounting plate contacting one of the 415v bus bars (at the back of the switchboard), causing a short to earth from the bus bar to the switchboard cabinet, tripping a breaker and disconnecting power to the Inlet Works Switch room. •
Hunter Water	• **Fall from height incident – Accessing confined spaces (Safety Alert 127)** • On 4 September 2018, a worker was entering a confined space to undertake pump removal from a dry well. As the worker proceeded down the ladder into the dry well, his foot slipped from the rung and he fell into the confined space – a fall of approximately 1.3 metres. The worker has broken and dislocated his ankle on impact.



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.

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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