

## QUEENSLAND MINING AND QUARRYING INDUSTRY SUMMARY OF SERIOUS ACCIDENT AND HIGH POTENTIAL INCIDENT REPORTS FOR THE FIVE WEEKS ENDING 12/2/2006

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- A crushing plant operator climbed through the handrail on a conveyor catwalk to dislodge a rock stuck in vicinity of the head drum. As he dislodged the rock he lost his balance and fell approximately 3 metres to the stockpile below.
- A loader was performing a cleanup of the floor in a drill drive when one of the tyres sunk into a backfill pass (9.9m deep 1.2m x 1.2m). The backfill had been emptied from the pass but a thin crust of dirt remained at the top of the pass. Prior to commencing the job an inspection of the drive had been conducted on foot by the Supervisor and the loader operator.
- A pre-strip face collapsed causing a clean-up dozer to take evasive action which resulted in the dozer colliding with a shovel.
- A slab of rock, weighing approximately 200kg, slid out from a longwall roof support chock canopy and struck an employee on the shin causing a fracture.
- Separate rockfalls occurred in two adjacent unsupported coal mine headings and in the roof of the supported heading intersection.
- A rockfall of about one tonne occurred in the travel way at an underground mine.
- A fist sized rock fell through roof mesh and struck an employee on his hard hat while he was having a drink of water at an underground mine.
- A pump was being lifted out of a borehole. While clamping the last riser, the pump 'let go' and fell back down the borehole. The power cable, which had been coiled alongside the hole as the pump was raised, uncoiled rapidly as the pump fell; fortunately it did not grab any of the many employees working in the vicinity.
- A shuttle car was unloading at the conveyor boot end when it moved forward without operator control. A faulty foot switch contributed to the uncontrolled movement.
- An 80 tonne crane and a 150 tonne crane were performing a tandem lift. The 80 tonne crane nearly tipped over due to the crane operators being advised that the load was 44 tonnes when in fact it was 77 tonnes.
- A maintenance light vehicle was parked alongside an unattended Cat 797 rear dump truck. The truck driver returned to his truck and pulled away from the park, hitting the light vehicle behind the passenger door.
- An empty Komatsu 930E rear dump truck entered a corner a little wide and the wheels started to slide into the berm. The corner had been recently watered. The 'position 1' tyre rode up on the berm and the truck travelled about 25 meters before it stopped.
- A Cat 789 rear dump truck was returning empty from the spoil dump and entered a recently graded and watered road. The operator lost control and the truck stopped at right angles to the direction of travel.
- While dumping a load of coal over a five metre tip face on a coal stockpile at night a rear dump truck breached the safety berm and became bogged.
- While descending a ramp the operator of a Cat 776 coal hauler commenced retard braking to no effect. He then went through the emergency braking, to no avail. He finally applied all brake systems and took evasive action to avoid collision with a parked hauler, coming to rest against a berm.
- Whilst approaching a ROM hopper the braking systems on a Cat 776 coal hauler failed. The driver managed to coast the hauler over the hopper to a safe park position on the stockpile.

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- A Cat D11 Dozer was pushing a road down into a pit. The operator was able to maintain a full blade of dirt until almost to the bottom of the pit. About three to four meters from the bottom the ground became hard and the dozer slipped over an edge landing on its blade.
- A Komatsu dozer working on a spoil dump was back blading parallel to the dump edge. A Komatsu 785 rear dump truck arrived on the dump and parked in an area the driver believed to be out of the operational area of the dozer. The dozer operator did not see the truck and continued to reverse towards the truck. The ripper tyne of the dozer contacted the front wheel of the truck and broke off a section of the wheel rim.
- Two Komatsu 785 rear dump trucks, one travelling at approximately 10kph the other at 5kph, met on a bend on an access road and touched while passing.
- Two scrapers were working in a figure eight pattern on a dump when they came into contact with each other.
- A haul truck failed to stop at a STOP sign and proceeded over a speed hump at the entrance to a quarry haulage road while a quarry grader was approaching the intersection. The grader operator had to apply full brakes to avoid a collision.
- A rear dump driver drove off with its tray up and hit an overhead conveyor causing damage to walkway.
- A back wheel came off a loader while tramming on a decline. The wheel studs sheared, and the tyre fell over.
- While a loaded Cat 785 rear dump truck was driving up the ramp towards the overburden dump, the driver fell asleep, and the truck veered off the road and hit the berm.
- A truck driver fell asleep while driving along the haul road. The Cat 789 haul truck veered into the berm and stopped.
- An excavator was working on the edge of a 2metre bench, parallel to the edge. The operator began to walk the excavator back but the machine slid back down the slope and rolled over onto its side.
- An International T-line tipper truck rolled-over on the driver's side when the operator was reversing up a 25 metre wide stockpile ramp and the driver's side wheels went over edge of the ramp.
- A Volvo 45t articulated truck was watering the gravel along the edge of a ROM dump station when the rear end of the truck slipped over the edge and tipped over. The driver's cabin stayed upright.
- A service truck was heading out into the pit to service machinery. The operator lost control of the truck while rounding a corner and it rolled onto its side.
- A light vehicle rolled onto its side on the edge of a back access road.
- The driver of a water truck descending a ramp was unaware that the front mounted sprays were turned on. The retarder was applied when the truck began to slide and it skidded into the berm and rolled onto its back.
- As the driver of a light vehicle drove around a piece of poly pipe on an underground decline the rear of the vehicle slid sideways and the vehicle rolled onto its side.
- A PJB was travelling too fast at the bottom of a drift. The driver had to take evasive action to avoid hitting another vehicle. He drove into a cut through and rolled the vehicle onto its side.
- An employee was driving out of the pit when he noticed a traffic sign had been knocked down. He parked his vehicle, applied the park brake and got out. While re-installing the sign the vehicle ran backwards down the ramp into a safety berm and overturned.

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- A light vehicle was reverse parked with the park brake applied. When the driver returned to his vehicle some minutes later he found it had rolled away about 50 metres.
- A storeman parked a Samsung forklift on a slight gradient at a tyre bay. It was parked with the engine off, park brake on and implements on the ground. He walked away from the forklift and when he turned around he saw it had rolled down the slope.
- A ute was parked in front of the workshop. The driver got out of the vehicle and the ute rolled away.
- The driver of a tyre-changing vehicle parked next to a dump truck. He got out of his vehicle and proceeded to inspect the flat tyre on the dump truck. His vehicle rolled away down a slight incline for approximately 30 metres and struck the rear of a semi-trailer which had the rear left wheel jacked up. The semi-trailer was knocked off the jack and its front bull bar struck the semi-trailer's driver who was walking past. He received bruising to his hip.
- At an underground coal mine a flameproof headlight on a personnel transporter was discovered with a crack through its lens whilst the vehicle was in an ERZ1 area.
- While a scraper was being re-fuelled on un-even ground fuel ran down onto the motor. The fuel ignited on the turbocharger unit. The fire was contained immediately using hand-held extinguishers.
- Whilst refuelling a grader from a mobile tanker, diesel was accidentally splashed over the turbo charger area causing a small fire. The fire was extinguished using a hand held extinguisher.
- An engine bay fire occurred on an O&K shovel. The on-board suppression system extinguished the fire at the turbo but further extinguishing was required in the exhaust region.
- A small fire occurred in the engine compartment of a Cat D10N dozer when fuel leaked from a loose injector line. The fire was extinguished with a hand held extinguisher.
- While a drill rig was tramming, oil leaked from a damaged hose and ignited on the exhaust manifold. The on-board fire suppression system was activated and extinguished the fire.
- A fire occurred on a surface drill rig when oil leaked from a loose hose onto the heat blanket around the turbo and onto the turbo. A hand held extinguisher was used to put out the fire.
- A fire occurred when sparks from a grinding machine ignited leaking gas from nearby oxy/acetylene equipment. The fire was controlled using a hand held extinguisher.
- Glowing embers of coal were found in a longwall boot end where about 50mm of fine compacted coal had accumulated on a rigid cross member and was being rubbed by the underside of the bottom belt.
- When retrieving drill rods on a Drilltek D75 from an exploration hole along a fault line, a column of fire came from the hole. The rods had been stuck and air pressure had been increased. An older exploration hole about 70 metres away was found to be 'hot'.
- Prior to firing and while conducting verification of the position of the blast guards, it was identified that the person believed to be at 'position one' was in fact not even on site. The shotfirer hadn't conducted a risk assessment to establish the blasting perimeters and blast guard locations nor held a pre-blast meeting, which would have identified what blast guards were available.
- An underground development face was fired by the charge crew using an exploder without following the mine's all-clear procedure. As a consequence, tags were still on the surface board when firing occurred.
- A dozer was constructing berms adjacent to a loaded shot. It encroached on the shot, and pushed material over the loaded holes damaging three downlines.

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- At a mine workshop, an employee was standing on the bucket/arm of a Hitachi EX1800 excavator to remove a bushing between the two components. When the bushing was freed the bucket moved and trapped his foot in the gap between the arm and bucket, fracturing a toe.
- A worker was replacing worn teeth on an excavator bucket when a sliver of steel lodged in his lower arm.
- A piece of steel lodged in an employee's calf muscle whilst he was using a sledgehammer to knock the ripper boot of the tyne of a dozer.
- Tradesmen were heating up the articulation pin on the chassis of a grader to remove it from its housing. When the chassis moved causing the pin to fly up and strike the drivers cabin windscreen.
- While freeing a stuck hose, it suddenly released striking a nearby employee and breaking his nose.
- A haul truck was driving around a corner from the pit to the dump. A light vehicle was driving in the opposite direction. Approximately 20 rocks varying in size from 300mm to 500mm fell from the right side of the truck tray onto the road and stopped within 5 metres of the light vehicle.
- A worker was trapped in a work basket of an elevated work platform (EWP) underneath steelwork that supports a floor. Due to unexpected bounce of the basket, the controls came in contact with the underside of the floor and drove the basket up against the underside of the floor. The EWP stalled. The worker was able to lower the basket to ground level unassisted.
- A post-hole boring machine narrowly missed cutting into an energised 11kV buried cable whilst drilling a hole. A permit to dig had been issued but full checks of the area, including a cable location check with a cable locator, had not been done.
- Whilst towing a dragline trailing cable the plug exploded and disintegrated. The cable was being pulled at 90 degrees to the line of the plug.
- An Electrician suffered an electric shock when working on a 240v isolator at an open cut mine.
- The jib of a loader came into contact with an 11kV cable plug while carrying mesh on the jib in a longwall coal mine. The earth cable on the flameproof plug had to be replaced.
- Sulphur dioxide gas was unintentionally released at a processing plant. Three persons breathed the gas and were taken to hospital for observation.