



SAFETY ALERT

SCRAPER DRIVER INJURED IN COLLISION WITH HAUL TRUCK

INCIDENT:

A large rear dump truck collided with a scraper at a large surface mine. The scraper cabin was extensively damaged in the collision. Fortunately the scraper driver only sustained moderate injuries and the truck driver was uninjured.

CIRCUMSTANCES:

The scraper was descending an access ramp and turned onto a haul road. An empty dump truck travelling along the road came into contact with the front of the scraper. The scraper cabin was extensively damaged. The scraper was on the blind side of the dump truck. The scraper driver was wearing a seat belt at the time of the accident, which possibly saved his life.



INVESTIGATION

- The scraper entered the haul road on the blind side of the truck.
- The scraper driver cannot recall details of the collision.
- The truck driver did not see the scraper enter the haul road.
- The road, weather conditions and visibility were good at the time of the accident.
- Both drivers were competent for the equipment they were operating.
- The truck and scraper were in good mechanical condition.

RECOMMENDATIONS

All surface mines using similar equipment should:

- Review Risk Assessments and Safe Work Procedures for the operation of ancillary mobile equipment on haul roads where large dump trucks are operating
- Review communication systems for ancillary mobile equipment
- Inform the workforce through tool box and safety meetings the hazards associated with ancillary mobile equipment entering haul roads on the blind side of large dump trucks
- Review standards of intersection design and signposting
- Conduct regular workplace inspections and task observations to ensure compliance with correct operating procedures and standards
- Investigate proximity warning devices for ancillary equipment



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Report No:	SA 04 – 22
Comet ID	1131001
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