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The advice provided in this pamphlet is basic safety and health information. Ensure you are familiar with your site procedures and, if uncertain, discuss this information with your supervisor and safety and health representative.

Mine safety matters

Remote bogging



THE HAZARDS

The use of hand-held remote controls to operate load-haul-dump (LHD) machines in confined areas underground potentially exposes machine operators and other personnel to hazards associated with crushing and being run over.

WHAT CAN HAPPEN

- The machine can crush the operator against the side wall
- The brakes may fail, and the operator could be run over if too close
- Other people could be run over if they enter the remote bogging area unannounced
- The machine can become jammed or stall in a drawpoint, making withdrawal very hazardous

SAFE WORK PRACTICES

- Where possible, use telemetry or an isolated workstation to direct remote bogging
- Follow the site's established safe work procedure for remote bogging
- Install adequate lighting in the work area
- Review the system of work if changes occur in the workplace
- Cease free bogging and bring in the remotes as soon as the brow opens up
- Never enter an open stope or a working drawpoint
- Do not operate remotely controlled equipment unless you are trained and authorised to do so
- Complete a prestart checklist of the machine and remote controls prior to use

- Before starting work, inspect the workplace for blasting fumes, dust, poor ground conditions, and trip and other hazards, and ensure the hazards are eliminated before commencing bogging
- If a remote cuddy is to be used, check that it is large enough, good footing is available, potentially hazardous items are removed and ventilation is good
- Never use suspect or faulty equipment. If you have any concerns, report them to the supervisor so they can be addressed
- Install barriers and signs that will prevent other people entering the remote bogging area
- Alert all workers where remote bogging is located
- Use a proximity detection and warning system to raise an alarm if someone passes the access point during bogging operations
- Operate from a position that will eliminate or minimise the risk of machine contact. Teleremote or fixed workstations are recommended
- Do not operate close to or alongside the machine
- Keep your eyes on the machine. If the machine doesn't stop, hit the emergency button and retreat unless you are in a safe refuge (cuddy)
- Always operate from a safe location and distance behind the boggler and do not reverse the machine past yourself
- Pay particular attention when reversing down a gradient and keep out of the path of the boggler
- Shut down the boggler and switch off the transmitter before removing the controller support harness. Never leave the machine turned on and unattended

- Never manually drive the machine into or beyond the open brow
- Apply the brakes and stop the engine when changing between onboard (manual) and remote control
- Minimise mental and physical fatigue. Load material to a stockpile where possible to allow direct operation of the loader when filling trucks

For further advice, refer to regulation 10.45 — Remote Controlled Equipment of the Mines Safety and Inspection Regulations 1995.



Remote bogging