



Significant Incident Report No. 202

Subject: Fall from crane deck results in serious injury

Date: 30 June 2014

Summary of incident

A crane operator and worker were installing counterweights on a mobile crane, which had been moved into position for a maintenance task. The worker climbed the access ladder to the deck of the crane to guide the counterweight. He lost his balance and fell almost 2 metres from the deck to the ground below, breaking his collarbone.



The ladder used to access the crane deck

Direct causes

- The worker was working at height.

Contributory causes

- Access to the deck of the crane was poorly designed. The ladder was narrow and there were limited hand holds above the deck.
- The risk of falling from height was not identified for the task.
- There was no training in the safe work procedure for working at heights.

Actions required

Mine operators are reminded of the potential risks of falling from height, including those associated with mobile plant.

- Review equipment, tasks and site practices to identify working at height hazards.
- Apply the hierarchy of control to ensure the most effective controls are implemented.

Further information

Visit www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ResourcesSafety for information on occupational safety and health in the resources sector.

This Significant Incident Report was approved for release by the State Mining Engineer on 30 June 2014