



Vehicle access incidents selected from Resources Safety's incident database

<http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/8004.aspx#6893>

1. Categorise into type of incident
2. Discuss what could be done to eliminate or reduce the risks?

Any incidents of your own to add?

- An operator attempting to dismount from a haul truck via the steps fractured his right wrist when the steps dropped and he fell to the ground. The step system had not worked hydraulically and the operator had attempted to loosen the steps, using his own weight, bouncing on the step.
- An underground charge-up vehicle operator suffered soft tissue injuries to his left shoulder when he fell while climbing down from a charge-up vehicle. He had stepped out of the control cab onto the first step and was holding the handrail with his left hand when he missed the second step and fell.
- A water cart operator, alighting from his truck at the go-line, slipped on a step and sustained a minor abrasion and swelling to his left shin. He attended the clinic for treatment at the end of his shift.
- A long-hole driller suffered back injuries and grazing to his back and buttocks while stepping down from a drill jumbo platform underground. He slipped on the bottom step and his feet slid from underneath him. The driller struck the platform's front left hand bracket and landed on the right side of his back. A subsequent medical review detected crushed thoracic vertebrae.
- The operator of a float being used to transport a drill rig to the workshop noticed that the rear steps of the float had been damaged when he nearly slipped on them due to their being at an unusual angle. He reported the damage.
- An employee, dismounting from a salt harvester, fell from the harvester injuring his wrist and lacerating his knee. His foot got stuck after he placed it on the top step and as he attempted to move his foot, his tool bag slipped from his shoulder to his wrist, causing his hand to slip down the handrail. He lost his grip and fell to the ground. A work colleague heard a "thump" and found the employee at the foot of the access ladder.
- A fitter strained his left knee when his foot slipped from a light truck step, causing him to fall to the ground.
- A workshop apprentice strained his lower back when he landed heavily on his heels after the bottom step on a scraper broke at a weld.
- An operator getting off a front end loader sprained his ankle and knee when he stepped off the loader onto uneven ground. The partial tear of his right cruciate ligament required corrective surgery.
- A bulldozer operator, completing fuel and grease checks, sustained lacerations to his forehead and a fractured left wrist when he slipped from the bulldozer cab and fell to the ground. A small amount of grease was on the step outside of the cab.
- A bulldozer operator, dismounting backwards from a bulldozer, was knocked unconscious when he fell back striking his head on a rock. His foot had slipped on a rock which was on the step of the draw arm causing him to fall back. He regained consciousness a short time later complaining of back pain and was flown to hospital by the RFDS.
- A serviceman bruised his right thumb when the door of a bobcat skid steer loader closed on it after his foot slipped on the step as he was climbing out of the bobcat at the workshop park up area.
- A drill jumbo operator struck his mouth on the steering wheel breaking two teeth and a dental bridge when he slipped while getting down from the top step of a load haul dump unit underground.