Monthly Safety and Health Snapshot

for the Western Australian minerals sector

Traffic management

Issued September 2017

Traffic on mine sites needs to be managed effectively to reduce the risks associated with vehicle and pedestrian movement. The focus of effective traffic management is having safe people, safe vehicle and implementing safe systems. Sites should have a well-designed traffic management system, fit-for-purpose equipment and competent people to reduce the risk of accidents and injuries. This applies at the mine, around the plant and camp, and beyond the gate.

This snapshot covers traffic management incidents for the period from 1 June 2016 to 31 May 2017.

For more information about occupational safety and health, visit our website www.dmirs.wa.gov.au



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Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

Top five notifiable incidents by contributory factors



28% driver or operator error



15% uneven or unstable ground



13% unsafe vehicle



12% wet surface



5% fatigue

Other contributory factors were wildlife and pedestrian error.

For **74 out of 289** incidents, no contributory factors were mentioned. Does your site need to re-evaluate its reporting system?

Injuries by severity



identified as traffic management injuries were **classified as serious**



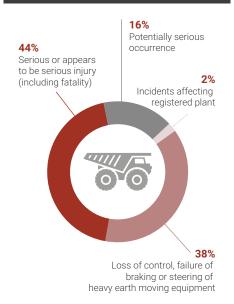
18 of the serious injuries were **lost time injuries**

Injuries by nature



28 of the musculoskeletal injuries were classified as **strains**

Notifiable incidents by reporting category



Notifiable incidents by area

86% of the notifiable incidents occurred during **surface operations**



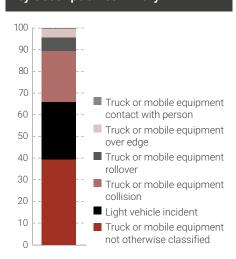
14% of the notifiable incidents occurred during **underground operations**



Injuries by employment type



Percentage of notifiable incidents by description summary



Some recent incidents



Loss of control – haul truck 08/08/17

The tray of an articulated dump truck tipped onto its side while transporting waste material from a stockpile to a pit for floor maintenance. The tray tipped after the driver negotiated a corner at the bottom of the pit ramp. After the incident the truck was found to have two flat tyres on the rear right-hand side of the vehicle – however, the tyre manufacturer confirmed that the flat tyres were caused by the rollover.



Fatigue-related incident – haul truck 07/06/17

The driver of an underground haul truck experienced a micro sleep while tramming the truck along a haulage drive. The truck made contact with the wall of the drive causing minor damage to the vehicle. The operator was on the first shift back at work after a rostered break and was uninjured.



Uncontrolled movement of charge-up machine 18/05/17

A charge-up machine slid down an underground diamond drill drive while personnel were standing nearby. The operator had driven the charge-up machine into the drive and positioned it at the face to charge a heading. The machine was secured into position with the jacks lowered to the ground and the park brake applied when the mine foreman approached the operators. While the operators were having a conversation with the foreman, a rock beneath the front lefthand jack displaced and the machine slid forwards down the drill drive. The machine slid for ~70 cm before coming to a stop. There were no injuries to personnel.

Spotlight on Mines Safety Significant Incident Report No. 249

Drill offsider run over by tracked vehicle

11 October 2016



Key message:

Unauthorised changes to mobile plant safety features may result in injuries or fatalities. Any changes should be addressed by the supplier or manufacturer. Always follow safe operating procedures.

KNOW YOUR HAZARDS

Are you aware of your workplace hazards?

Know Your Hazards is a video series produced by the Department for the resources industry. The series targets common workplace hazards that have injured or killed. Let's work together to reduce the risk of these accidents happening.

Videos related to traffic management will be released soon. Subscribe to our news alerts at www.dmp.wa.gov.au/subscribe for updates.



View or download our hazard awareness videos at www.dmp.wa.gov.au/ HazardVideos

Five ways

to reduce the risk



Employees should be trained and competent with equipment and follow site traffic management rules and procedures.



If circumstances change, have a process in place to assess and reduce risk. Communicate the changes to all employees.



Apply safe design principles to the mine plan and mining equipment.



Are you separated from heavy equipment? Minimise the interaction risk.



Does your site have regular road maintenance, adequate signage, visible road markings and sufficient lighting? Undertake an audit to check.