



**DEPARTMENT OF MINES
WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT REPORT NO. 26

TRUCK TOPPLED OVER EDGE OF STOCKPILE

INCIDENT

A Caterpillar 769 haul truck was reversed to the edge of a 6 metre high stockpile which collapsed causing the truck to topple over the edge and come to rest upside down at its base. A front end loader was digging at the base of the stockpile to feed a crusher whilst dumping operations were being carried out above. The truck driver suffered serious injuries including fractured ribs, shoulder and several vertebrae.

CAUSE

There was no effective backstop or spotter on the stockpile at the time the truck was being tipped.

The edge of the stockpile had been undercut by the loader immediately below the point at which the truck was being tipped.

COMMENTS AND PREVENTATIVE ACTION

In no circumstance is material to be dumped from a truck over the edge of a stockpile immediately above the place that a loader has been or is excavating at the base of the stockpile until loading has stopped and that area of the stockpile has been made safe.

To make a stockpile safe for dumping to recommence after loading from the base of the stockpile it is necessary to re-establish the natural rill angle. This can be achieved by dumping loads on the stockpile short of the edge under close supervision and pushing the material over the edge with a dozer.

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SAFETY AWARENESS SAVES LIVES