

Week ending 4 October 2017

This incident summary provides information on reportable incidents and safety advice for the NSW mining industry. To report an incident to the NSW Resources Regulator: phone 1300 814 609 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

At a glance

High level summary of emerging trends and our recommendations to operators.

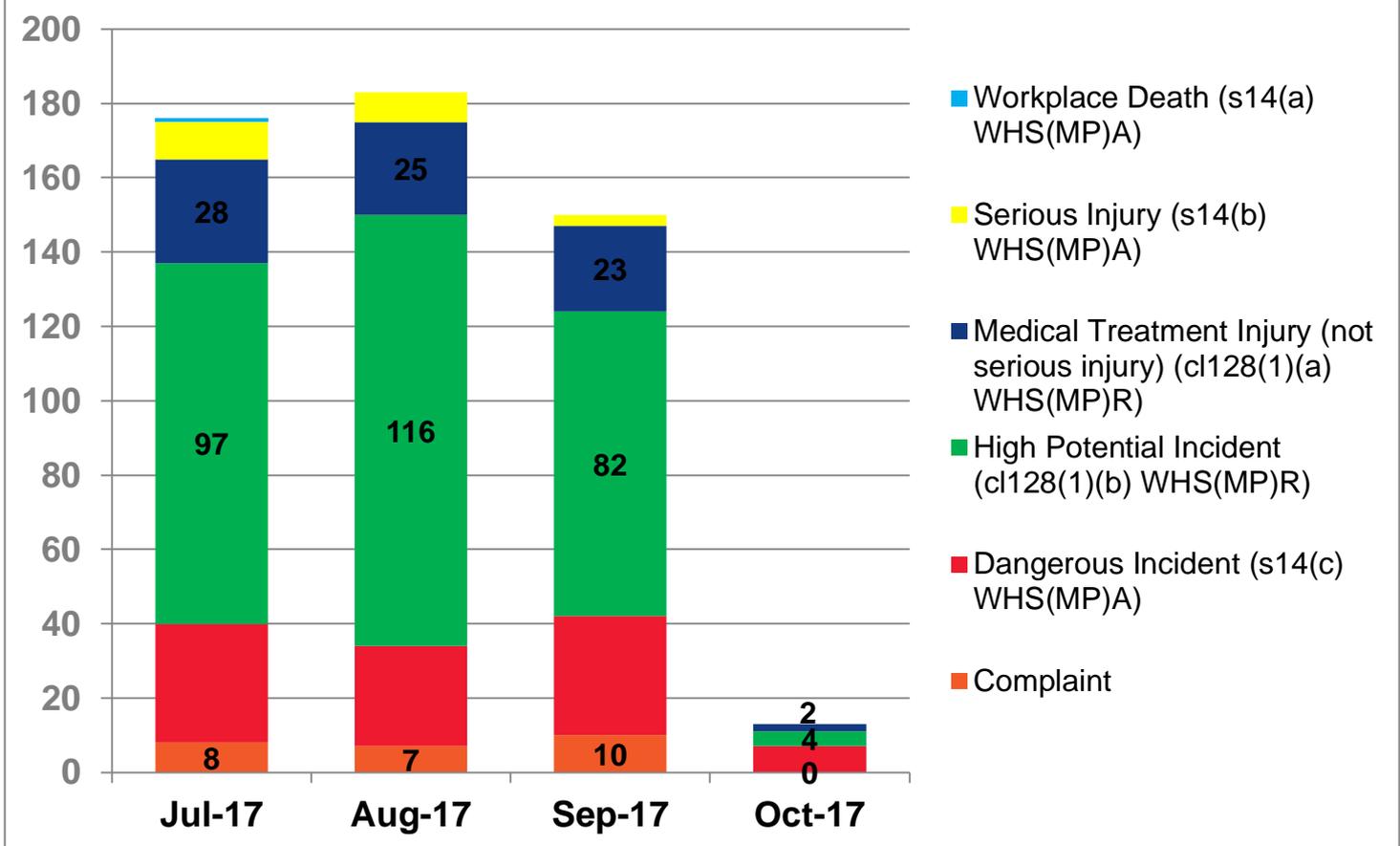
Type	Number
Reportable incident total	40
Summarised incident total	6

Summarised incidents

Incident type	Summary	Recommendations to industry
Dangerous Incident SInNot-2017/01561	An electric shock was reported by an operator who made contact with an external storage hot water system at a crib hut. The hot water system was supplied from a 240V AC source. The water heater was within a mobile crib hut fed by a generator.	Engineering risk controls for the prevention of electric shocks are well known and if properly implemented should prevent the likelihood of these incidents. Mines should review electric shock protocols to ensure they are consistent with actual assessment options, noting that ambulances are equipped with electrocardiograph capability so that victims may be cleared without attending hospital.
Dangerous Incident SInNot-2017/01565	A dump truck pulled out from a stop sign into the path of a light vehicle. The light vehicle driver took evasive action, avoiding a collision. The operator of the dump truck indicated he had stopped, looked in both directions, but did not see the light vehicle.	Principal hazard management plans for roads or other vehicle operating areas (WHS(MPS) Regulation schedule 1 clause 4) should ensure that adequate consideration is given to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which vehicle should have the right of way • the separation of heavy and light vehicles, where possible • the use of proximity detection • restricted / limited fields of vision from the operator's position of heavy vehicles. Refer to MDG 15 Mobile and transportable equipment .

<p>Dangerous Incident SInNot-2017/01567</p>	<p>A dump truck reversed through the dump windrow while tipping, causing the rear wheels of the truck to slump on the rill and raise the front tyre.</p>	<p>Mine operators should review their tipping procedures to ensure that dump trucks do not tip close to edges. Mines should have systems in place to ensure windrow standards are regularly verified and maintained.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • retraining dump truck operators in tipping procedures • periodic workplace assessment of truck operators to ensure they are following tipping procedures.
<p>Dangerous Incident SInNot-2017/01568</p>	<p>During the installation of monorail services at a longwall installation face, a spotter was positioned at the maingate corner to communicate with a loader operator. The loader was being used to tow monorail services and the longwall distribution control box up a slight grade and into position with the assistance of two air mules on the monorail. During the task, the 24 mm rope failed near the connection to the monorail and retracted making contact with the spotter that was positioned at the maingate (63 metres away). The spotter was taken to hospital for assessment with abrasion, bruising and swelling above the right ankle.</p>	<p>The procedure for this task required a winch attached to the loader. There was a fault with the rope on this winch, so the workers used a different rope with a direct pull from another loader. The tractive effort of the loader was much higher than the rope break strength.</p> <p>When using slings, the pull force should not be capable of breaking the slight unless a designed weak link or point is installed.</p> <p>Mine operators should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify that changes in work practices need to be appropriately managed through a change management process • use appropriately rated equipment • use engineering support as necessary to ensure equipment selected is suitably rated for the task to be performed • use lifting or pulling equipment in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and for the intended purpose • develop JSAs for unfamiliar tasks.
<p>Serious Injury SInNot-2017/01576</p>	<p>A contractor was refuelling a petrol-driven water pump. The pump caught fire and the person suffered burns to his hand. There was a strong wind blowing and this may have blown fuel onto hot engine parts during the refuelling.</p> <p>The incident was not immediately reported to the regulator</p>	<p>Petrol engines should not be used in mines unless there is no reasonable alternative. Petrol engines have additional hazards and risks compared to diesel engines.</p> <p>Mine operators are reminded that hot engine exhausts can be a fuel ignition source, especially during hot weather.</p> <p>This incident required scene preservation and immediate notification to the regulator. For guidance on reporting refer to Notification of incident and injury guide.</p>
<p>Dangerous Incident SInNot-2017/01589</p>	<p>An operator was in the process of establishing the edge of bench bund prior to carrying out push over to an excavator on the bottom level.</p>	<p>Mine operators should ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supervisors and workers comply with mine procedures

	<p>The operator had to rip a hard rock area prior to pushing up the bund. In dropping the drive down, the operator slipped the dozer into neutral and the dozer rolled backwards over the edge onto bottom level. The operator suffered a bump to his head as a result of the incident.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> workers who operate equipment have sufficient experience incident scenes are correctly preserved and site emergency procedures are followed. <p>Operators of dozers and other heavy machinery must be adequately trained and assessed for competence.</p>
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Note: While the majority of incidents are reported and recorded within a week of the event, some are notified outside this time period. The incidents in this report therefore have not necessarily occurred in a one week period. All newly recorded incidents, whatever the incident date, are reviewed by the Chief Inspector and senior staff each week. For more comprehensive statistical data refer to our annual performance measures reports.

Recent publications

- [Worker exposure to diesel exhaust emissions \(consolidated report\)](#)
- [Fall of ground risk in NSW underground metalliferous mines](#)
- [Expressions of interest open for independent member of Mining and Petroleum Competence Board](#)
- [Expressions of interest open for independent member of Mine Safety Advisory Council](#)

Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information on which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NSW Department of Planning and Environment or the user's independent advisor.

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Mine safety reference	ISR 17-39
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