

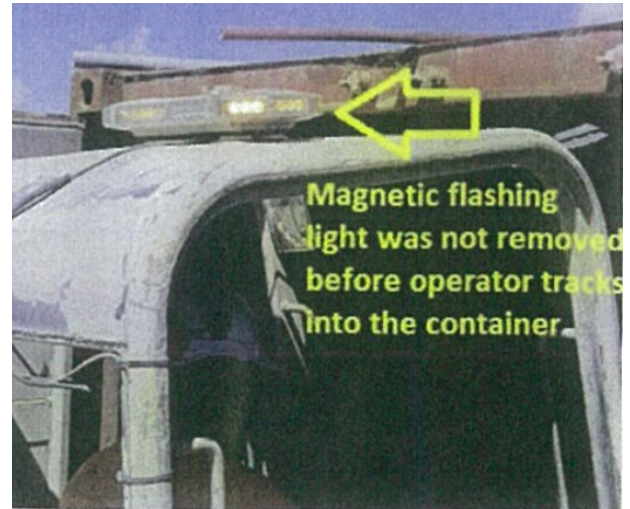
Worker crush injury

A worker was moving a 1.5 tonne digger into a storage container when the light on the roof of the digger got caught in the doorway of the container.

As the worker attempted to move the light, the digger moved jamming the worker's hand between the digger roof and the doorway.

Hand injuries are the major contributor to occupational injuries in mines and quarries. They result from poor manual handling techniques, use of inappropriate gloves, no use of gloves, rushing, and failure to identify the hazard.

If gripping a load is difficult, a worker might have to use their hand and arm muscles in a constant high force. Sudden, uncontrolled movements happen if they lose their grip. Gloves might make it easier to get a better grip, but they might increase the force needed to grip the load securely



You need to ensure that:

1. When storing mobile equipment and tools, that buckets, legs etc. are securely on the ground to stabilise the equipment.
2. You remove any obstructions that may impede your ability to safely store the equipment.
3. All staff are trained and assessed as competent in manual handling tasks, including the use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
4. All activities are adequately supervised, including workplace inspections and task observations

MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 15 months to Sept 2018 shows that 10% of all incidents (110 incidents) result in occupational injuries to workers. Many of these are crush injuries.

Know of an incident or near miss? Please share the learnings with us.