



Serious injury to worker involving a mobile screening plant

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What happened?

On Thursday the 18 July an apprentice diesel mechanic became trapped between the rear of the incline conveyor and the chassis rail of a mobile screening plant. The worker sustained serious injuries requiring medivac and hospitalisation.

Two other quarry workers who were nearby saw the incline conveyor slide downwards and responded immediately to the trapped worker. They used an excavator and chains to pull the incline conveyor upwards to free the worker.

How did it happen?

This incident is still under investigation. Work performed on the mobile screening plant has allowed the incline conveyor to move down trapping the worker between the rear of the conveyor and the chassis rail.

Comments

The injured person was working on the mobile screening plant alone. Had this incident not been witnessed by the two quarry workers, who were able to respond quickly, the outcome of this incident could have been much worse.

Recommendations

- Risk assessment in the form of job safety analysis (JSA) or take 5 should be undertaken with appropriate control measures put in place before starting a task.
- Workers should always be supervised and not allowed to undertake work unless they are competent and understand the hazards and risks of the task they are undertaking.
- Equipment isolation should account for all forms of energy, including the control of potential energy, which is stored due to an object's position or height.
- As per MQSHR s 112, the Site Senior Executive must ensure the mine has written specifications for the plant and instructions for its use, and a copy of the instructions are made available to each worker required to carry out the activity to which the instructions relate at the mine.



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