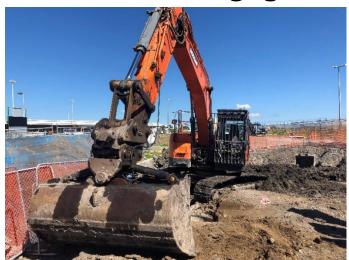
## NNTP SITE SPECIFIC SAFETY ALERT

# Insufficient Time Given for Excavator's Quick Hitch to Engage Causes Bucket to Drop.





Excavator involved in the incident and the depression in the stockpile is where its' bucket dropped.

#### What happened?

- A subcontractor was operating a 23 tonne Doosan excavator to pick up hard fill. His spotter was 20 metres away on a haul road stopping traffic.
- Nobody else was in the area.
- The excavator operator raised his bucket 1 ½ metres off the ground and its 1 tonne bucket fell off into a hard fill stock pile.

#### Why did it happen and what did we learn?

- The operator grabbed a bucket and went for a scoop of hard fill before its quick hitch had enough time to engage.
- The engagement process is automatic and takes about 4 seconds.
- The operator should have waited until the quick hitch's continuously sounding alarm stopped sounding to indicate that it was fully engaged.
- The Operator reported the incident.

### **Actions required and Safety Advice**

- The operator stopped work, pulled his team together and held a safety meeting.
- The incident was discussed at a NNTP pre-start.
- Be patient, don't rush and give excavator quick hitch mechanisms time to engage.
- This incident was a reminder to everyone why we have safety rules such as:
  - Never stand under a raised load or excavator bucket.
  - Never enter an excavator's slew zone.
- If we unfailingly observe these rules nobody will ever be hurt.

For further information contact

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