

# Fire in ammonium nitrate store

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## What happened?

A front end loader caught fire inside an ammonium nitrate store whilst loading into a hopper. The loader suffered an ignition circuit failure causing the wiring to ignite, engulfing the engine bay. Efforts to extinguish the fire were hampered due to the engine cover. The loader was removed from the store area and was extinguished by flooding with water.

## Recommendations

- Review ammonium nitrate handling activities involving machine loading operations, to identify and control all
  - hazards and risks associated with the task.
- Inspect to certify that all vehicles and machinery powered by internal combustion engines and operated within the store meet the requirements of section 9.3.3 of Australian Standard 4326:2008 *The storage and handling of*
  - *oxidizing substances*.



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