

Resources Safety and Health Newsflash

An early report about an incident that may require action at your mine

Manual fire suppression activation units.

An incident occurred at an opencut coal mine where a CMW was unable to activate and remove a fire suppression safety pin during a fire event on a rear dump truck. This was due to an anti-tamper tag being fitted around the activation pin. At another mine, maintenance personnel discovered during an inspection the security / safety pin legs crossed over and not allowing the pin to be removed in an event of being activated.

Safety Pin Activation Button



Anti-tamper tag Charge Gauge

Security/Safety Pin Leg



Pin leg crossed over and cannot be removed

A recent inspection of an underground coal mine, identified that the same potential hazard is present on underground mobile plant fitted with on-board fire suppression units.

It is recommended that:

Mines inspect all Mobile Plant that have remote fire suppression units fitted with these type of manual pin and button actuators to ensure they fulfil the specific requirements in AS5062, which requires a 2 step action to prevent accidental discharge and make sure that:

- When anti temper tags are fitted, ensure they do not prevent security pin removal during an emergency.
- Security Pin legs are not crossed over.
- Review routine daily "Inspection Checklists" captures visual inspections of the on-board suppression units.

Safety Newsflashes Purpose

1. Draw attention to the occurrence of a serious incident(s) in the mining industry
2. Increase Risk awareness
3. Promote mines to examine and check that their controls are adequate

The investigations are ongoing and further information may be published as it becomes available.

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing.

Great state. Great opportunity.

