

Pedestrian interaction with heavy vehicles

A front-end loader operator in a quarry was loading a customer's truck when another truck driver exited his truck, walked over to the loader and started climbing the ladder to speak to the loader operator. The loader driver only noticed the pedestrian when he started to climb the ladder.

Far too many incidents occur due to the interaction of heavy vehicles with light vehicles and pedestrians in quarries.



Much of the focus on controls has been on communication and being able to identify the presence of pedestrians in the work areas of heavy vehicles. Focusing on identifying the presence of pedestrians in work areas, and putting the responsibility of controlling the hazard on the shoulders of the operator of the HV, has not reduced incidents and, in many cases has set up sites to fail in the management of this problem.

We recommend that all sites review procedures, and practices, around the interaction of heavy vehicles and pedestrians. You need to ensure that:

- **All workers, contractors, customers and visitors are aware that no-one is to walk into plant operating areas while plant is operating**
- **Procedures are in place to ensure all machinery stops operating the moment someone is on foot in a work area**
- **Appropriate consequences are in place for breaches of policies and procedures around pedestrians in the work areas of heavy vehicles**
- **Clear signage is in place to remind everyone of the procedures**
- **Regular workplace inspections are conducted to ensure compliance with the procedures listed above.**

Let's work together to keep ourselves and our workers safe.

3 November 2017