

# Safety Bulletin

Date: May 2025

## Recent increase in heavy vehicle rollovers

This safety bulletin provides safety advice for the NSW mining industry.

### Issue

The Resource Regulator has noticed, with some considerable concern, an increasing trend in truck rollovers in the past 12 months throughout all sections of the mining industry in New South Wales.

### Circumstances

Vehicle interactions are showing an increasing trend as evidenced by 40 incidents that were notified to the Resource Regulator.

- 13 related to articulated trucks
- 6 related to dozers
- 5 involved rigid off-highway trucks
- 7 included trucks and trailers
- 4 contained light vehicles
- 3 were other vehicles (skid steer, roller, excavator)

### Investigation

Of the 40 incident notifications, 21 were from coal mines, 12 were from construction, 5 were from metalliferous mines and 2 were from industrial minerals. A review of details on these incidents indicated that the predominant causes were:

1. Poor ground conditions at tip heads and dump areas.
2. Hang up and carry back in trays causing poor centres of balance and trucks tipping.
3. Running out dirt while moving.

### Recommendations

Mine operators must have a structured, risk-assessed approach to address adverse vehicle interactions and should review and consider all relevant resources available, including Resources Regulator guidance material.

When conducting risk assessments, mine operators must involve appropriate people to support the roads and other vehicle operating areas principal hazard management plan and underpin requirements for roadway design, construction and maintenance procedures.

Mine operators should have procedures in place for tipping loads to ensure that loads are centred, and flow during tipping, and carry back is managed.

Mine operators should monitor that ground conditions are suitable for hauling, loading and tipping.

Road and dump areas must be maintained so that:

- Roadways and intersections are designed and constructed in compliance with site standards.
- Tip and dump areas are designed and constructed with suitable grades for tipping and turning.
- Tipping and dump areas have adequate bunding and windrows in place.
- Run-out tipping is avoided where possible and risk assessed when required.

Equipment operators should:

- Inspect ground conditions prior to tipping.
- Maintain situational awareness while operating mobile equipment and ensure that distractions do not interfere with safe operations.
- Report on defective equipment and not operate if the defect prohibits the safe operation of the equipment
- Drive to in a manner that allows them to retain full control of the vehicle in all instances though especially in wet weather and when recovering from wet weather events.

Sites are to investigate and, where reasonably practicable, implement light vehicle separation roadways and collision avoidance technologies.

Sites must include human and organisational factors in their vehicle interaction risk assessments.

Figure 1: Reversing into windrow resulting in tub section rolling and discharging load



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Figure 2: Loss of control on corner resulting in rear tub rolling



Figure 3: Road conditions contribute to rollover of rear tub



**Note:** Please ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy of this safety bulletin and are informed of its content and recommendations. This safety bulletin should be processed in a systematic manner through the mine's information and communication process. It should also be placed on the mine's common area, such as your notice board where appropriate.



# Safety Bulletin SB25-03

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- find more safety alerts and bulletins, with a selection of relevant publications provided below:
- [Safety alert SA23-01 Unintended movement of haul truck](#)
- [Safety alert SA22-05 Service brakes fail on moving articulated dump truck](#)
- [Safety bulletin SB24-08 Recent increase in vehicle interactions](#)
- [Safety bulletin SB24-03 Overtaking or passing equipment in mining areas](#)
- use our searchable safety database for other relevant documents.

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