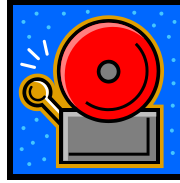


SAFETY ALERT

ARTC NSW No. 13



OPERATING AND WORKING NEAR MOBILE PLANT

Incident

On 17 May 2006 an employee climbed onto a hi-rail excavator to talk to the operator. While climbing off the excavator moved forward crushing his foot between the forward moving hi-rail wheel and the rail. The injury sustained required medical intervention and suitable duties. The potential was there for this incident to be far more serious, possibly an amputation.

Contributing Factors

- The excavator was operational at the time of the incident.
- The employee accessed the hi-rail excavator from the travel direction, in this case from the four foot.
- When alighting from the machine he climbed off over the hi-rail gear to access the track.



Action Required

At the most immediate opportunity employees are to be made aware of this incident and warned of the dangers when operating or working near mobile plant with particular emphasis on the following:

- Do not attempt to board or disembark from operational mobile plant by gaining access from any potential direction of travel.
- Make eye contact and gain approval from operator before approaching mobile plant.
- At every opportunity use radio communication to communicate with operator in preference to climbing onto operational mobile plant.
- On every occasion where mobile plant is to be used on site the hazards must be identified and included in the Prewrite Brief or Work Method Statement and Safety Controls implemented.