

# ZERO HARM BULLETIN

## Excavator Rollover / Trench Collapse

**ZH Alert No: RLZHB09-03****Date of Issue: 01.05.2009**

### WHAT HAPPENED:

On Saturday 7th March 2009 at 17:15hrs, a 5.5 tonne excavator was working along the edge of an open trench in Laverton Station Car Park, Victoria. Due to an unexpected collapse of the trench, the excavator fell into the trench and onto its side damaging the door and rear glass window along side the cabin.

Plant & Pedestrian Interface was highlighted at the pre-start meeting which included a requirement that each piece of plant was to be allocated a spotter to direct the operator, control the movement of it, and prevent intrusion into the exclusion zone by any unauthorised person(s). The spotter's duties also included prevention of the machine into a protected environmental area.

**Safe Work Method Statement** was not followed which states "a spotter to assist all machines" - a lack of resources meant a spotter was not available for each piece of plant as required.



### Actions Required:

- Toolbox talk to be undertaken to advise employees of Safety Alert and sign off as required
- All subcontractors to be issued a copy of the safety alert and to sign off on a toolbox talk.
- Ensure JSA / SWMS is up to date, followed, and all relevant employees are made aware of these hazards (contact SEQ Dept. for assistance if required).
- Ensure MS033 Excavation & Trenching Management Standard is adhered to.
- Plant & Pedestrian Interface DVD to be viewed by all staff (contact your Supervisor or Manager for a copy)

**For further information contact:****Chris Rohde****Phone: 0437 730 872****Authorised by:****Paul Dojcsak****Phone: 0419 365 022**

This Zero Harm Bulletin is to be discussed with workers at the next toolbox meeting and posted on all workplace Notice Boards

**Please distribute to all Workplaces.**

*This Zero Harm Bulletin may be removed from Notice Boards by: 01.11.2009*