

# Significant Safety & Health Incident Alert



## Worker injured with backhoe bucket

<b>Alert No.</b>	146		
<b>Date</b>	8 December 2010	<b>Division</b>	Construction
<b>Site</b>	RAAF Tindal Q1314	<b>Business Unit</b>	Northern Region
<b>Energy type</b>	Vehicular	<b>(Potential) Damage</b>	Class 1 (Actual Class 2)
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### Incident details

Sub contractor three man crew preparing 1.5msq footpath pad for concreting. Loose spoil from pad preparation was back spread with a backhoe in reverse (approx 2m distance). Worker two commenced the boxing activity and worker three walked away to a nearby work truck. The operator drove forward and lowered the bucket to the ground connecting with the right ankle of worker two resulting in a fractured right fibula. Early investigation indicates backhoe operator thought worker two had walked away to the truck parked nearby. Worker three was in fact that person. Operator had lost sight of worker two while spreading in reverse and failed to see him fixing the boxing due to the suspended backhoe bucket.

### Reminder

This incident is currently being investigated. Project Managers are reminded of the importance of the following controls:

- Workers are not permitted to work in and around operating mobile plant.
- Where there is any doubt a ground worker could come in contact with mobile plant, the plant is to be shut down until clear separation can be established.
- Where there is plant and personnel operating in close proximity, subcontractor operations should have a supervisor appointed to monitor that activity.

This incident alert must be placed on all safety notice boards and discussed at safety communication forums.

**Current at: 9 December 2010**