

ZHA-12-52**Date: 01/08/2012**

Serious Foot Injury



What happened?

- > A Downer Group working on a Rio Tinto Site in Western Australia were dragging a 6.5 metre length of rail using a loader and a chain. The work group consisted of a Loader Operator from Downer West Civil Business and two Spotters from Downer Specialist Services – Rail Division.
- > As the rail was being dragged into position for future work, it struck a stationary piece of rail causing the rail to kick upwards striking an employee's left foot.
- > The Employee suffered multiple fractures, de-gloving of the foot, damaging arteries and causing other serious complications.
- > The Employee will require a series of surgeries and pro-longed intensive rehabilitation.

Why did it happen?

- > The incident is currently under investigation by Rio Tinto and Downer Infrastructure, DASS Rail Division/Downer West Civil.
- > A designated exclusion zone was not exclusively determined.
- > Initial investigations indicate that there was a lack of supervision of a young, inexperienced employee.

Action required:

Project Managers / Supervisors must complete a minimum of 4 zero harm observation forms in the month of August that focus on the following:-

- Pre start briefs and identification of site hazards;
- Plant Pedestrian Interface;
- Site Traffic Management Plans;
- Supervision of Work Groups; and
- Training and Competencies.

Project Managers are to ensure that there is adequate supervision on site and that all employees and contractors have the skills, attributes and experience to perform the tasks that they have been assigned safely.

All Zero Harm Observations will be reviewed by the Zero Harm Manager and the Executive General Manager to ensure that the level of detail recorded has satisfactorily met the Downer Zero Harm standards.

For further information contact:	Paul Dojcsak – Zero Harm Manager	Phone:	0419 365 022
Authorised by:	Paul Kyte – EGM Rail Division	Phone:	0407 809 073

Discuss at next available pre-start meeting/post on notice boards – (valid for 3 months)

