Dumper Driver Traps Hand

WHAT HAPPENED

A small dump truck was being used to remove wrecked refractory material, via a rubble chute, from the cooler gantry during repair work. As the dump truck was being positioned under the chute its front wheels ran up onto a pile of wrecked material, which had been tipped on the floor, and the truck lurched forward causing it to become unstable. The operator reached out and grabbed hold of the truck's roll-cage to steady himself. In doing so his hand became trapped between the roll-cage and the chute frame. The operator suffered a serious crush injury to his hand with laceration to the skin and three broken fingers.

Key findings from the investigation

- The task had been carefully planned, risk assessed and a safe method of work developed and communicated to the team doing the work.

- The team deviated from the agreed method of work by tipping wrecked refractory material down the chute before the dump truck was in position, creating a pile of rubble (hazard) on the floor

- The truck operator drove his truck onto the rubble pile in order to position the truck's skip under the chute. This caused the truck to become unstable, which in turn caused a serious injury incident.



Finger Injuries



Dumper Position

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

Key learnings points to share;

- Always follow the safe system of work, if circumstances change or mistakes are made, STOP and reassess the risks – In this case the spilled rubble on the floor should have been spotted, recognised as a hazard and cleaned up before work continued.

- Please intervene to correct any unsafe condition or unsafe behaviour you observe – By intervening you are helping look after yourself and your work mates – 'Intervention is Welcomed'.

- In the event of a vehicle becoming unstable or overturning – with your seatbelt on, keep hold of the steering wheel and try and keep all of your body inside the protected area of roll-cage for safety.

LOCATION:	CEMENT PLANT	ALERT STATUS:	Normal
ACTIVITY:	MAINTENANCE & HOUSEKEEPING	DATE ISSUED:	13/06/2016 11:35:33
SUB ACTIVITY:	N/A	INCIDENT No:	01433