SAFETY PERFORMANCE

IN THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN MINERAL INDUSTRY 2018-19

INJURIES BY AREA

- 908 of the 1,113 LTIs and RWIs which occurred during surface mining operations were classified as serious
- 122 of the 147 LTIs and RWIs which occurred during underground mining operations were classified as serious
- 36 of the 48 LTIs and RWIs which occurred during exploration operations were classified as serious

Nature of injury* (top 5)

- Bruise/contusion: 13%
- Crushing: 11%
- Laceration: 11%
- Fracture: 13%
- Sprain or strain: 51%

Part of body* (top 5)

- Shoulder: 11%
- Back: 13%
- Knee: 10%
- Hand: 25%
- Ankle: 8%

Location* (top 5)

- Treatment plant: 29%
- Open pit: 18%
- Workshop: 14%
- Surface general: 12%
- Underground production and development: 11%

MINING AND EXPLORATION FATALITIES THREE YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE

- National target 20% reduction 2012-22

Employees and contractors

- Company employees for mining and exploration: 46,786 workers worked 45% of hours
- Contractor employees for mining and exploration: 80,190 workers worked 55% of hours

RWIFRs

- Mining: 2% decrease in RWIFR for iron ore sector to 3.3, 5% decrease in RWIFR for nickel sector to 5.5, 1% increase in RWIFR for bauxite and alumina sector to 10.3

Fatal accidents

- Mining: 2% decrease in RWIFR to 4.7
- Exploration: 2% decrease in RWIFR to 4.7

DEFINITIONS

- Frequency rate (FR): Number of injuries per million hours worked
- Lost time injury (LTI): Work injury that results in absence from work for at least one full day or shift any time after the day or shift on which the injury occurred
- Serious injury: Work injury that results in the injured person being disabled for a period of two weeks or more
- Restricted work injury (RWI): Work injury (not LTI) that results in alternate duties being performed for at least one full day or shift any time after the day or shift on which the injury occurred

For more detailed information on safety performance, see the annual compilations at www.dmirs.wa.gov.au

For more information on Fatal accidents, see Mines Safety Significant Incident Report No. 267 Haul truck operator loses control descending ramp on haul road – fatal accident

A 44 year old truck driver was fatally injured when the Caterpillar 775G dump truck he was driving out of the pit crossed a windrow and fell down the pit wall to the bench below. The loaded truck had just reached the second narrow point in a section of the ramp that was reduced to a single lane. The truck's right side wheels rode up and over the windrow and the truck slid over the edge of the windrow. The haul truck was descending an inclined ramp with a full load of ore. The mine's standard for the safe operation of a loaded haul truck descending the ramp was for the speed not to exceed 20km/h. The descent speed of the Komatsu 830E A/C truck is controlled by dynamic braking controls when it is driven within the safe operating range, but will not slow a loaded truck on a 10% downhill slope when the speed is above 25 km/h. If the truck exceeds this speed, the driver is required to engage the service brakes and perform an emergency stop.

Related safety alert
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