



RETROFITTING OF ROLL-OVER PROTECTIVE STRUCTURES (ROPS) TO MOBILE EQUIPMENT ON MINES – REGULATION 4.15

After 8 December 1997 all mobile equipment, referred to in Regulation 4.15 and operating in mines, must be fitted with ROPS. In many cases this will mean that equipment will have had to be retrofitted with ROPS to comply with the regulation. All owners and operators of such equipment should check the credentials of any company offering a retrofitting service of “certified” ROPS. The credentials may be checked against the testing requirements of AS 2294, being the relevant Australian Standard for most of this plant; (the exception being agricultural tractors covered by AS 1636).

AS2294 requires amongst other things that:-

- Prior to acceptance of design of ROPS, tests must be carried out on a **prototype of each structure/machinery assembly** and the test results must comply with the minimum requirements of AS 2294 –
- There must be a test report and that report must provide:
 - Identification details of the machine and the ROPS tested.
 - Maximum recommended mass of machine.
 - Location of DLV (Deflection Limiting Volume).
 - Calculations of test forces required.
 - Confirmation of the performance of the tests with the name and address of the test facility, dated and signed by the person carrying out the test.

Before you let a contract for retrofitting of a ROPS to your mobile equipment you should make sure that the machine/ROPS assembly has been previously tested as required by AS 2294, by viewing a test report which is relevant to your particular equipment. A photograph of the prototype ROPS structure in the test rig should be included in such a report.

J M Torlach
STATE MINING ENGINEER

27 November 1997