

Rail Industry Safety Notice

8 August 2011

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RUNAWAY OF HI-RAIL EXCAVATOR

Background

The Rail Safety Unit requests that rail transport operators in Tasmania who operate hi-rail excavators and other road-rail equipment read the attached Investigation Report released by the Rail Accident Investigation Branch in the United Kingdom on 11 July 2011 into the runaway and collision of a road rail vehicle (Hi-rail Excavator).

The report can be found at the following internet address:

http://www.raib.gov.uk/publications/investigation_reports/reports_2011/report102011.cfm

Action

While the report addresses a particular control system and associated software, the Rail Safety Unit suggests that accredited rail organisations that operate hi-rail excavators and other road-rail equipment read this report and review their operation to avoid the scenario where a machine comes into a free-wheel condition.

The information and risks described should be assessed against your individual operations to ensure that any similar risks are being managed.

Craig Hoey
Manager – Rail Safety

Rail Safety Unit
Department of Infrastructure,
Energy and Resources



