



## Dismantled A-frame slides and kills worker



### INCIDENT

A 30-year-old hauler operator was killed when he was struck by an A-frame tower which slid while it was being de-rigged for transport on a public road.

### CIRCUMSTANCES

The A-frame tower had been lowered and one pin removed from the foot of the frame. Another pin that held the footplate of the A-frame tower could not be removed. It was decided to remove the studs holding the other foot plate to the hauler.

When the last stud was removed, the A-frame tower slid backwards off the machine supports. The worker either jumped or was knocked off the hauler. He was seen standing at the rear of the hauler when the head of the A-frame dug into the ground. The A-frame tower then pivoted, toppled over and struck the worker.

### INVESTIGATION

The investigation determined that the A-frame should have been secured when de-rigging was carried out.

### DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR ADVICE

De-rigging is not to be carried out without assistance and back-up being available.

To provide more balanced weight distribution, either a further support should be placed at the rear of the hauler or the support system should be redesigned.

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