**Mines Inspectorate**
www.dme.qld.gov.au

**Safety alert 205**
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# Heavy and Light Vehicle Interaction

**Mine Type:** All Surface Mines

**Incident:** A rear dump truck and a light vehicle collided at a mine ramp intersection. The rear wheels of the dump truck ran over and crushed the front section and the passenger side of the light vehicle. The light vehicle driver sustained non life threatening injuries but was trapped in the vehicle. Cutting equipment was used to free him.

The incident was re-enacted with the truck and a light vehicle approaching the intersection at similar speeds. Although the intersection had unimpeded visibility, the combination of the ramp grade, the slight angle of the haul road as it intersects the main outer road intersection and the converging speeds of both vehicles placed the light vehicle behind the 'A' pillar of the 'roll over protection' cab, where it was not visible to the dump truck driver.

**Equipment:** Cat 789 rear dump truck and a Toyota Landcruiser Manhaul light vehicle.

**Hazard:** Intersection design and driver visibility.

**Cause:** A blind spot in the rear dump truck driver's field of vision.

**Comments:**

**Recommendations:**

- Perform a risk assessment on all intersections on each mine site to identify potential hazards.
- Remove any identified hazard at the earliest opportunity.



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- Where access roads are at a slight angle, redesign the intersection to ensure access is only gained from a right angle. Install bunding to force right angle entry until the redesign and construction takes place.
- Fit all vehicles with proximity detection devices

The Department of Mines and Energy web site www.dme.qld.gov.au/mines/mining_safety___health.cfm/ has information on proximity detection devices that can be fitted to vehicles to warn drivers of hazards such as other vehicles approaching their own.

**Gavin Taylor**
**Chief Inspector of Coal Mines**

Contact: Kevin Clough, District Inspector of Mines, +61 7 4967 0869

Please ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy of this Safety alert. Any such advice supplied to site should reach those who require it, and it should also be placed on the mine notice boards.

See more Safety alerts and Safety bulletins at
www.dme.qld.gov.au/mines/safety_information___bulletins.cfm