

Potential Class 1- Motor Vehicle Accident

Uncontrolled Movement: Truck wheel contacts motor vehicle.

W2B Program, Portion B, 20 August 2019

During Foam Bitumen haulage operations, a rigid truck travelling south on the Pacific Highway has lost a set of dual wheels that have travelled in an uncontrolled manner, coming into contact with a public motor vehicle carrying two occupants. The first wheel struck a temporary concrete barrier in an 80 KPH road works zone and deflected across the northbound lane where it struck an oncoming car causing extensive damage. Unaware that a wheel had been lost, the driver continued on for a further 400m until the second of the duals left the vehicle ending up in a cane drain and causing a loss of drive. No person sustained any injuries during the event.



Considerations

The investigation is currently underway. In the meantime, all personnel are reminded that the implementation and monitoring of the controls in FSR 02: Plant and Equipment must be adhered to, including ensuring that:

- Plant is inspected before mobilisation and before use
- Plant is maintained and serviced as required in accordance with original equipment manufacturer (OEM) maintenance schedule

All workplaces should review their current and planned plant and equipment activities to ensure that risks are considered and appropriate controls are in place and working effectively, in particular:

- Ensure all plant maintenance is conducted by a competent mechanical engineer or plant fitter
- It is recommended that all truck/trailer combinations should have wheel nut movement indicators/wheel nut locks fitted.

22 August 2019