

# **SERIOUS EVENT REVIEW**



Recently there has been a rash of damage or near miss events between light vehicles and heavy equipment. When heavy equipment contacts light vehicles, the potential for serious or major injuries is very high and, damage costs for these types of incidents are also very high. Please ensure operators and workers understand the importance of yielding right of way to heavy equipment and that operators are vigilant in watching for light vehicles and other equipment and exercise caution when they are near.

## **Immediate Causes:**

In most cases, the light vehicles were in areas they should not have been

## **Underlying Causes:**

In most cases the heavy equipment operators reported not seeing the light vehicles.

## **What went right?**

- ✓ No one was injured.

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## **How do we prevent this from happening again?**

- Ensure all drivers are aware that right of way must be yielded to heavy equipment; this means staying a safe distance (30-45 metres or 100-150ft) from that piece of equipment until it is no longer a hazard
- Make eye or radio contact with heavy equipment operators before proceeding through an area where they are operating
- Keep unnecessary light vehicle traffic out of heavy equipment operating areas such as feed bins or near stock piles

## **Other lessons from the incidents:**

A Company specific traffic management Code of Practice shall be developed to provide direction on:

- Vehicle right of ways and procedures for approaching heavy equipment
- Required signage in operational areas and how/where it needs to be posted
- Training for workers driving vehicles in active heavy equipment areas
- Vehicle equipment requirements for certain operational areas i.e.: beacon lights and or radios