



INCIDENT ALERT

General Information

Date of Incident	March 2018
Type of Incident	Potential only

About the Person

Occupation of Person	HPWJ Operator
Experience of Person	Unknown
HPWJ Training Level	Unknown
Other Training	Unknown
No. of Hours Completed	Unknown

About the Incident

Time of incident	Unknown
Result of Injury/Damage	Nil
Lost Days	Nil
Description of Incident	Worker was tasked to clean the underbody of an excavator.
What Equipment Category	Gun work
Equipment Used	207 bar pressure washer
What Was Person Doing	A worker was cleaning the under body of an excavator with a 207 bar (3000 psi) high pressure water gun.
What happened unexpectedly	While repositioning himself, the gun trigger was inadvertently activated, spraying the worker just above the right knee. The worker climbed down and walked to the back of the machine where he went into shock and fainted. There was no fluid injection involved.

Corrective Action

What Immediate Action	Task stopped, medical attention sought. Investigation started.
-----------------------	--

Preventative Action

Elimination	
Substitution	
Isolation or barriers	
Engineering	
Administration	
PPE	

LEARNINGS

Information received through Mines Safety News. 2018/00426.

Mine Safety News recommendations:

Mine operators and contract companies should review their procedures for the use of high pressure cleaning systems. This should include the potential hazards associated with not isolating an energy source before moving and always keeping nozzle directed away from persons.

Ausjet Comments:

- The manual safety catch to prevent the trigger operation should be utilised when a Class A gun is not in use, this will prevent inadvertent activation of the flow of high pressure water.
- Where operators are working in tight and or confined areas the risk assessment should be looking at whether PPE for body and feet protection should be worn. 500bar PPE body protection is available.