

Extractive Industries Inspectorate

Promoting Safety and Health in the Extractive Industries

ACCIDENT/INCIDENT ALERT

20 February 2002

Truck and Trailer Roll Over

Incident

A truck and semi-trailer rolled over and crashed after a brake failure while travelling down a quarry haul road. The driver was unhurt but the truck and trailer were written off.

Circumstances

The semi-trailer was travelling down a road of a gradient of about 1:10 when the exhaust brake failed. The driver attempted to use the foot brake but that also failed. The driver did not think to use the park brake. The speed of the vehicle increased, the driver managed to

negotiate the first corner but at the next corner the truck left the road and travelled 600 metres before overturning.

Investigation

Although the cause of the brake failure was not established, the investigation showed the semi-trailer was substantially overloaded.

Recommendations

Quarry trucks must not be loaded to exceed the manufacturer's maximum vehicle loading capacity.

