

CONTRACTOR SAFETY ALERT



TITLE: High Potential Haulage Incident **Number: 109**

Background

On 10 October, an FPC haulage contractors rear trailer loaded with pine sawlogs travelling north along the South West Highway has disconnected from the prime mover and travelled onto the opposite side of the highway. The trailer remained upright.

The thread on the bolt of the drawbar has sheared causing the trailer to disconnect. An industry expert has been engaged to investigate.

Key Points

- Fortunately, no vehicles were travelling in the other direction at the time of the incident.
- There were no injuries.
- This incident was WorkSafe notifiable as a dangerous incident.
- This had the potential to cause significant harm to other road users.
- The towing eye was inspected on 7 October during the driver's weekly vehicle inspection, no issues were identified.
- It is important that trailers and towing mechanisms are regularly maintained and visually inspected for wear and tear and/or metal fatigue.
- Findings from this incident will be shared with industry once the investigation is complete.

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