

Safex Safety Alert 21-08

SCAFFOLDING INCIDENT

REPORTED BY

NEW SOUTH WALES RESOURCES REGULATOR

INCIDENT	SUMMARY	COMMENTS TO INDUSTRY
Dangerous incident IncNot0040523 Open cut coal mine	A mine worker has fallen while climbing a ladder to access scaffold. The worker fell approximately four metres, landing on a co-worker, who was standing at the base of the ladder, on a scaffolding platform. The worker who fell, lost consciousness and sustained a head laceration which required 16 stitches. The worker who was fallen on, sustained a neck injury. Both workers were transported to hospital for treatment. The outcome of this incident could have been far more serious, as there was a drop of several metres from the lower scaffold platform to the floor of the work area.	This incident is under investigation. Further information may be published in future. Mine operators must ensure that there are effective controls in place to manage the risk of falls while climbing onto and from scaffold ladders. All workers, who install or work on scaffolding should be familiar with site scaffolding procedures. This should include design and construction requirements, and necessary safety equipment, such as when fall protection equipment is required.

