



ALFABS

MINING EQUIPMENT PTY LTD

Safety Alert 103 – Weld Failure – 25-02-13

Safety Alert 103

Weld Failure - Equipment Damage

This Safety Alert has been issued to inform the users of Alfabs Equipment the possible risk of damage to equipment or minor injury to personnel due to Weld Failure due to incorrect maintenance procedures being followed.



Event

An operator attempted to lift an LHD attachment, the attachment point broke away from the mainframe leaving the base behind. Upon investigation it was recognised the pods SWL not exceeded and a structural weld had failed. After consulting the owner's maintenance records for the attachment it was noted that the attachments annual Non-Destructive Testing had been completed incorrectly due to the surface around the welds not being prepared correctly (Paint Removed).

Recommendations

Alfabs Mining recommended the following actions to reduce the possibility of potential weld failure hazards:-

- Equipment due for annual maintenance should be returned to Alfabs Mining to ensure that all maintenance is completed in accordance to OEM Recommendations.
- All Alfabs Hire Equipment annual maintenance must be completed by Alfabs Mining or a company nominated by Alfabs Mining.
- Non-Destructive Testing should be completed by trained personnel in accordance to method code AS1171 (1998). All Paint must be removed from the areas and welds prior to testing.
- Onsite maintenance procedures should be updated to reflect the above recommendation in regards to as AS1171 (1998).

Notes

Please ensure all relevant personnel in your organisation receive a copy of this Safety Alert, and are informed of its contents and recommendations. This Safety Alert should be processed in a systematic manner through the mines information and communication process which should include being displayed on notice/information board.