

## Safety Alert 106

### Seal Failure – Near Miss Oil Injection

This Safety Alert has been issued to inform the users of Alfabs Equipment the possible risk of injury to personnel caused by the failure of seals used on cartridges installed on the Alfabs QDS BOAR Bolters

#### Event

During the operation of a QDS Bolter (fitted with a Hydraulic Controls Valve Bank), an operator was sprayed with hydraulic oil while operating the dead man control on the Valve bank. Upon investigation by the Owner of the bolter it was discovered that a cartridge back-up seal located on the Left Hand side of the valve bank had failed allowing for the escape of high pressure oil in the proximity of the operators hand. The operator was cleared of any injury.

**Failed Back-up Seal**



**Failed Cartridge**



|                      |                                                                                   |                    |             |                |            |
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| <b>Document Name</b> | AE-SAS-0006 REV1 Safety Alert - QDS Bolter Seal Failure – Near Miss Oil Injection |                    |             |                |            |
| <b>Created Date</b>  | 6/03/2015                                                                         | <b>Review Date</b> | As Required | <b>Creator</b> | J. Bellamy |

## Recommendations

Alfabs Mining recommends the following actions to reduce the possibility of potential injury to personnel and unplanned down time:-

- Alfabs QDS Boar Bolters are returned to Alfabs for the recommended 2 year overhaul to be completed as per the attached.
- A systematic inspection by End Users / Owners of all exposed cartridges for possible signs of poor integrity of seals/back-ups.
- For Hydraulic Controls Boar Bolters, the Fitting of Guard (BB-102359) to reduce operator exposure.

## 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.

For any questions or queries please contact



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