

ACCESS MATTING DEBRIS

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DESCRIPTION:

A service company received several calls from the regulator and members of the public regarding debris falling from loads of access (swamp) matting being hauled on public roadways. The debris included clumps of mud, rocks and chunks of wood creating a hazard for road users including the public.



VIEW OF UNACCEPTABLE LOAD WITH MUD AND ROCKS ATTACHED TO MATTING



CLOSE-UP VIEW OF MUD AND ROCKS ATTACHED TO MATTING

CAUSE:

The access matting was not cleaned properly prior to being loaded and transported.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

- » There was not adequate room designated on site to completely clean the matting prior to being moved to the stack out area
- » The wheel hoe operator cleaned the matting by banging other mats against them, which did not adequately clean them
- » The track hoe on site, which could have cleaned the matting, was being used to load the mats onto the trucks and as a result there was not enough care and attention to cleaning
- » There were no standard operating procedures in place to inform and set the standard for cleaning matting
- » The matting was being hauled from remote sites with extremely soft ground conditions so the mats had lots of attached mud and debris
- » Truck drivers removed accessible debris by hand and believed that any remaining debris would be dislodged prior to reaching public roads

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CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

- » A standard operating procedure was created detailing how to clean matting (access and rig) and what constitutes “clean”
- » Shippers were reminded of their responsibility to provide matting that meets the standards for cargo securement
- » Truck drivers were reminded of their responsibilities to refuse the load if it does not meet the standard for cargo securement
- » A cleaning station was created next to the stack out area with an additional excavator to make sure all matting is scrapped clean prior to being stacked and loaded onto transport trucks