



TAG

# SAFETY ALERT

## Rock Truck Brake Failure

### Description of the Event:

- An articulated rock truck was hauling down a sustained 10% grade when the engine retarder failed
- The driver applied the foot brake and park brake in an attempt to slow the truck
- Both brakes were unsuccessful in slowing the truck, so the operator purposefully spilled his load in order to stop the unit
- The cab stayed upright and the operator sustained scrapes and bruises from his seatbelt
- Prior to the event, the brake warning light came on while the rock truck was being loaded. The driver called the mechanic and they decided the operator should check the reservoirs and travel down in low range

### Contributing Factors:

- Ignoring safety warning systems
- Inadequate risk assessment of the worksite
- Inadequate pre-trip and post-trip inspection

### Suggested Actions:

- Ensure pre-trip and post-trip inspection are up to date
- Ensure maintenance records are up to date
- If brake warning indicator light comes on, machine needs to be taken out of service
- Consider all hazards associated with the job including slope and braking time



**BC Forest Safety**

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