

Dangerous incident I IncNot0037723

Underground metalliferous mine

Principal mining hazard: Fire or explosion



Summary: The operator of a loader in an extraction drive observed a flame coming from the muffler box on the loader. The operator stopped the machine and used a fire extinguisher to suppress the flame. The flame reignited and was extinguished again. The automatic fire suppression system was manually activated to cool the machine. The apparent cause was fuel leaking from a crack in the internal fuel tank into the diesel particulate filter (DPF) box. The loader had previously contacted a wall, but the damage to the fuel tank was not identified at that time.



Comments to industry: This incident is under investigation and further information may be published at a later date. Following damage to any piece of equipment, thorough inspection and recommissioning must be undertaken to ensure all defects have been identified and repaired.