Ignored fault Codes on Mobile Plant

WHAT HAPPENED

One of our contractors has notified us of a potentially serious incident involving the tipping circuits on a Komatsu HM400 Articulated Dumper.

While parked and with the engine ticking over the skip started to tip of its own volition with the tipper control in the float position causing damage to an overhead obstruction.

Komatsu have identified a number of recurring fault codes on the dump truck involved in the incident. It appears that 151 - E03 fault codes were recorded on the Komtrax (Komatsu's live plant fault tracking system), which had been flagging fault codes for sometime, apparently without alerting the operator.



Mobile Plant

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

Komatsu use a three tier alert system for fault codes E01,E02 & E03 whenever an E03 code is displayed on the dash the machine should be withdrawn from service immediately and a thorough investigation undertaken using the onboard display with cross reference to the manual to determine the exact code of the fault.

All fault codes on all makes of plant should always be reported and actioned appropriately with reference to the OEM and operators manual.

Never ignore a fault warning, if in doubt seek advice from the machine supplier.

All manufacturers employ sophisticated data logging which will indicate when a fault has been ignored.

LOCATION:	**COMPANY-WIDE**	**ALERT STATUS:**	**Normal**
ACTIVITY:	**TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS / DELIVERY**	**DATE ISSUED:**	**22/08/2011**
SUB ACTIVITY:	**MOBILE PLANT**	**INCIDENT No:**	**00310**