Operator injured by arm rest on CAT 980

WHAT HAPPENED

Injured Person (IP) sustained a severe laceration to the top of index finger, resulting in an over 7 day lost time injury, due to a failure of a CAT 980 arm rest unit

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On this machine the arm rest unit and joystick control are raised and lowered to allow operator access and egress from the machine. A piston ram is connected to the seat and the unit to assist with the lifting and lowering, similar manner to operating a car boot.

As the IP was lowering the unit back into the horizontal position, it become stuck. As the IP investigated the cause, the unit released and fell trapping the IPs finger.

An investigation identified that the connecting pin attaching the piston ram to the seat had sheered. At the time of the incident, the machine was three months old. Two other CAT 980s (delivered at same time) were also found to have a similar issue with the arm rest. All arm rests have now been modified in accordance with manufacturers instruction.



Armrest down



Armrest in up position to allow access

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

1. If something does not work as expected, it should be treated it with extreme caution as it could be in an unsafe condition and not react as expected. Ensure body parts are kept clear from potential nip points.

2. Arrange with supplier for inspection to be undertaken of CAT 980 armrest.



Faulty piston

LOCATION:	QUARRY	ALERT STATUS:	Normal
ACTIVITY:	BEHAVIOURAL SAFETY MANAGEMENT	DATE ISSUED:	30/11/2021 18:07:45
SUB ACTIVITY:	NO SUB ACTIVITY AVAILABLE	INCIDENT No:	03599