



# SAFETY REPORT

## Issue 7

### October-December 2015

Version 1, 24 February 2016

#### **PARTICIPATION RATE**

**13 out of 14 (93%)**

Active members participated in  
the data collection this quarter

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The seventh quarter results showed the following:

- 13 out of 14 eligible members participated this quarter (93%).
- 15 safety incidents were reported; 7 during mobilisation and 8 during surveying.
- Three of the incidents reported an injury (20% of all incidents).
- The rate of mobilisation incidents has increased to a similar level to that seen one year ago (101.6 incidents per 100,000 hours), suggesting possible seasonal effects which cannot yet be confirmed.
- The rate of surveying incidents remains similar to that seen previously (11.7 incidents per 100,000 hours).
- Whilst the **number** of incidents was similar for mobilisation and surveying, the **rate** of mobilisation incidents was about 10 times higher than the rate of surveying incidents, showing that higher risks are associated with mobilisation.
- All the incidents which resulted in an injury occurred during surveying.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

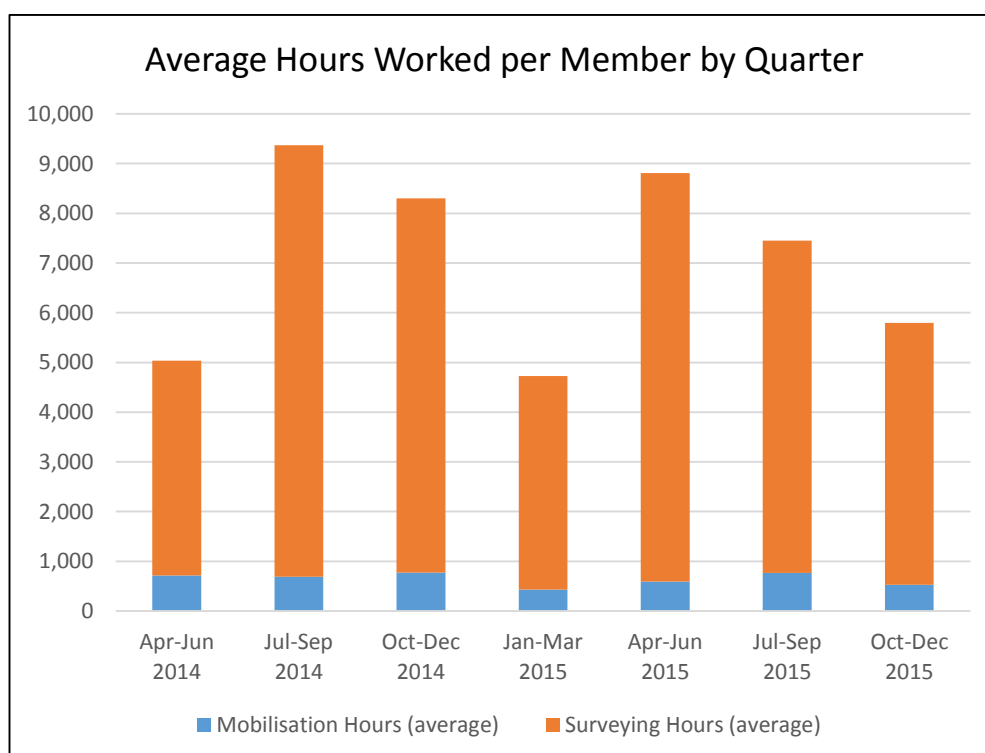
Ground Geophysical Survey Safety Association (GGSSA) engaged Pragmaticus Research to develop a safety reporting system for its members. This is the seventh report in the series and contains the aggregate results of the seventh quarterly data collection, October-December 2015.

## 2. OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2015 INDUSTRY REPORT

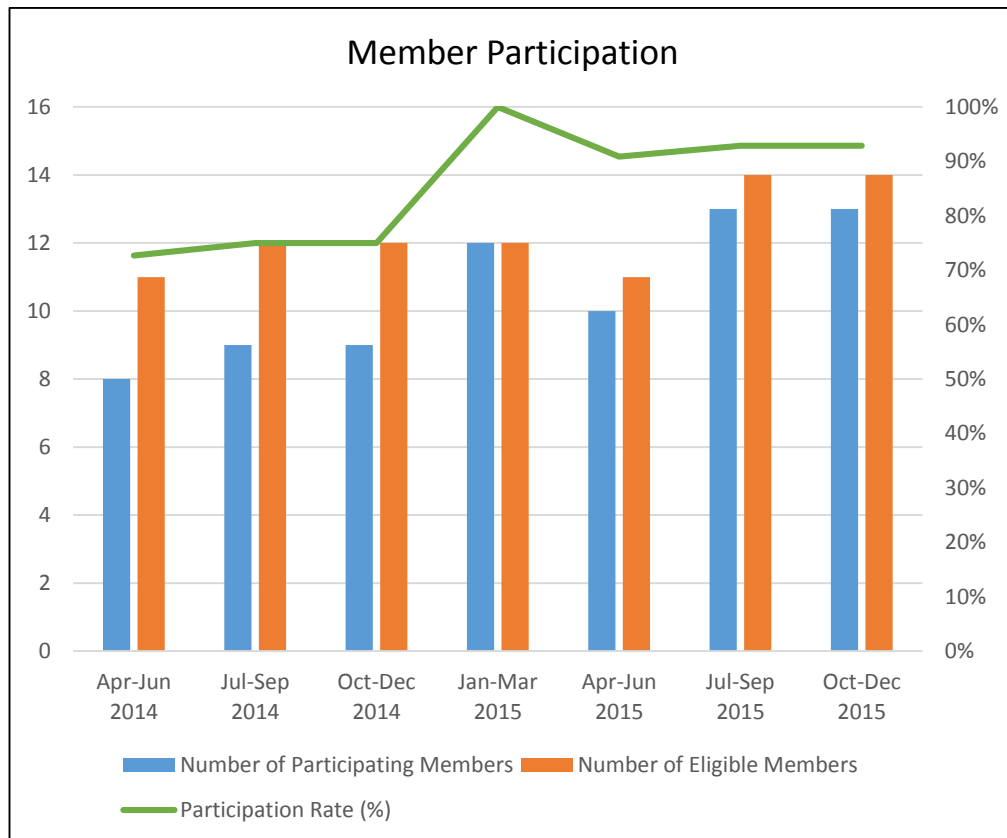
The following sections summarise the results of the aggregated data from all members who contributed reports in the October-December 2015 quarter. This de-identified data is provided to GGSSA and to individual members. Individual members also receive a summary of their own data; for confidentiality, this is delivered as a separate report, unique for each member.

### 2.1 Industry Activity and Member Participation

The following graph shows the average number of hours worked per participating member by quarter, separated into mobilisation hours and surveying hours. Over time, this graph may illustrate seasonal changes in the average number of hours worked by members, as well as long-term trends.



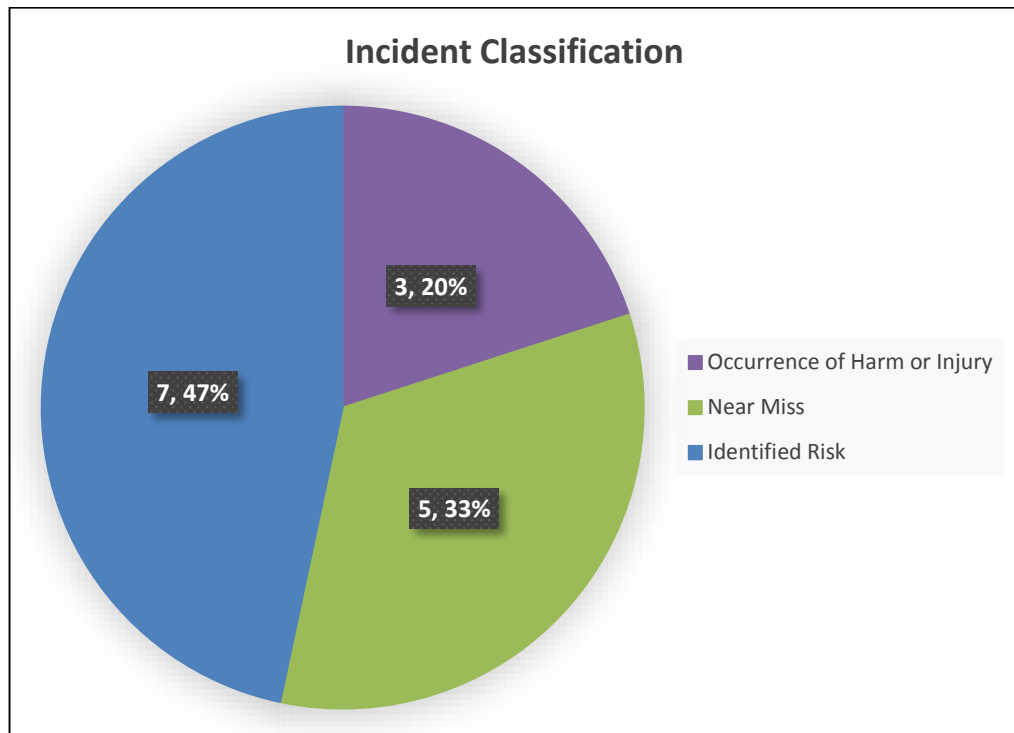
The rate of member participation in the Safety Reporting System over time is shown in the graph overleaf (ie. the percentage of eligible members submitting Quarterly Exposure Summaries each quarter). Note that the participation rate shown here for previous quarters may vary from that reported in previous reports, due to the addition of data after the cut-off date for each report.



## 2.2 Incident Reports

Reports were received from 13 of 14 eligible members, who reported a total of 15 incidents in the October-December 2015 quarter. The incidents were reported by 8 of the 13 responding members (the remaining 5 reported zero incidents for the quarter). This is similar to the number of incidents reported in previous quarters.

Incidents are classified into the following three categories: occurrence of harm or injury (most serious), near miss, and identified risk (least serious). The number and proportion of incidents in each category for the October-December 2015 quarter is shown below.



## 2.3 Risk Pattern Summaries

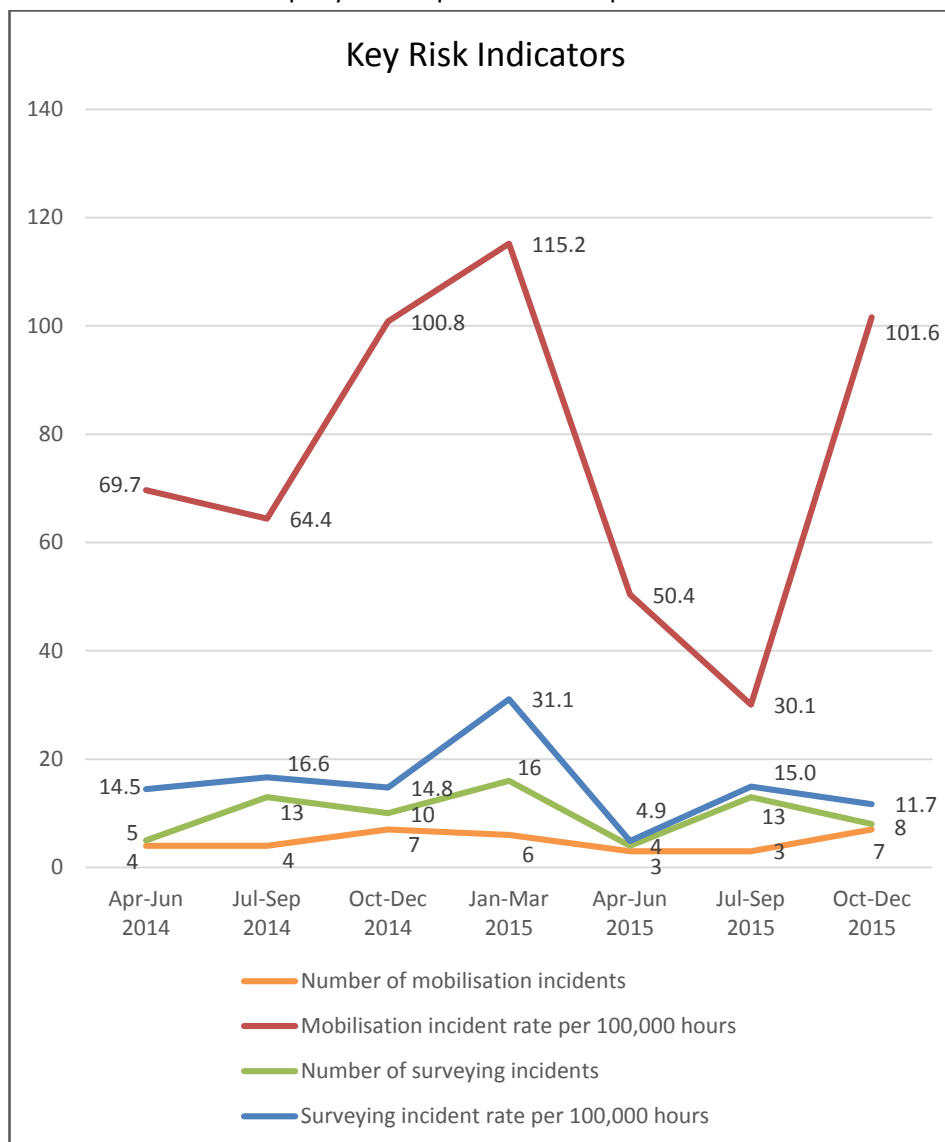
The following summary table shows the difference in risk patterns between mobilisation and surveying phases for the October-December 2015 quarter.

	Mobilisation Phase	Surveying Phase
Total hours worked	6,889.5	68,429.75
Total incidents	7	8
Incidents per 100,000 hours	101.6	11.7

Whilst the **number** of incidents was similar for mobilisation and surveying, the **rate** of mobilisation incidents was almost ten times the rate of surveying incidents (because members spend about ten times as many hours in surveying as in mobilisation). This shows that there is a much higher **risk** associated with the mobilisation phase.

## 2.4 Time Series

The following chart shows the trends in the key risk indicators for the industry. Total number of incidents as well as the rate of incidents per 100,000 hours are shown for mobilisation and surveying phases. Members will be able to use the indicators reported for their individual company to compare their risk pattern with that of the industry.



## 2.5 Incident Descriptions

### 2.5.1 Mobilisation Phase

Incident type	Survey type	Number of persons injured	Human and system factors	Contributing factors	Mechanisms	Treatments	Body parts	Injury type
Near miss	EM	0	Failure to adhere to SOP (e.g. missed a step in a defined standard operation procedure) Misjudgement of risk (a person underestimated the level of risk in a task or operation)	Mechanical failure (e.g. failure of a structure, mechanical breakdown or other physical fault of equipment)	Vehicle loss of control	None	None	None
Near miss	IP	0	Failure to adhere to SOP (e.g. missed a step in a defined standard operation procedure)	Mechanical failure (e.g. failure of a structure, mechanical breakdown or other physical fault of equipment) Motor vehicle or road surface (e.g. pothole caused loss of control)		None	None	None
Identified risk	IP	0	Failure to adhere to SOP (e.g. missed a step in a defined standard operation procedure) Procedural deficiency (standard procedure was not adequate to prevent harm) Fatigue (fatigue contributed to misjudgement or failure to follow procedure)			None	None	None

Incident type	Survey type	Number of persons injured	Human and system factors	Contributing factors	Mechanisms	Treatments	Body parts	Injury type
Identified risk	EM	0	Misjudgement of risk (a person underestimated the level of risk in a task or operation)	Exposure to natural elements (e.g. sun and hot weather)	Contact with kangaroo - Impact to vehicle	None	None	None
Identified risk	EM	0	Loss of control of vehicle	Mechanical failure (e.g. failure of a structure, mechanical breakdown or other physical fault of equipment)	Vehicle loss of control	None	None	None
Identified risk	EM	0	Loss of control of vehicle	Mechanical failure (e.g. failure of a structure, mechanical breakdown or other physical fault of equipment)	Vehicle loss of control	None	None	None
Identified risk	EM	0	Failure to adhere to SOP (e.g. missed a step in a defined standard operation procedure)		Mechanical (cutting, crushing, puncturing)	None	None	None



## 2.5.2 Surveying Phase

Incident type	Survey type	Number of persons injured	Human and system factors	Contributing Factors	Mechanisms	Treatments	Body parts	Injury type
Occurrence of harm or injury	EM	1	Failure to adhere to SOP (e.g. missed a step in a defined standard operation procedure) Misjudgement of risk (a person underestimated the level of risk in a task or operation) Loss of control of vehicle	Motor vehicle or road surface (e.g. pothole caused loss of control)	Fall on level < 1.2m (slip, trip, stumble) Hitting object with body (moving person hits against a stationary object) Vehicle loss of control	First aid	Trunk (includes back)	Bruising
Occurrence of harm or injury	EM	1	Failure to adhere to SOP (e.g. missed a step in a defined standard operation procedure)	Dense under-growth	Hitting object with body (moving person hits against a stationary object) Mechanical (cutting, crushing, puncturing)	Doctor's room, emergency department or outpatient treatment	Upper limb (arm and/or hand)	Laceration
Occurrence of harm or injury	BH EM	1	Misjudgement of risk (a person underestimated the level of risk in a task or operation)		Being hit by object (object is moving and strikes a stationary or moving person)	First aid	Upper limb (arm and/or hand)	Laceration Bruising
Near miss	IP	0	Procedural deficiency (standard procedure was not adequate to prevent harm)	High voltage equipment (injury associated with high voltage equipment including, shock, burn, or eye flash injury)		None	None	None

Incident type	Survey type	Number of persons injured	Human and system factors	Contributing Factors	Mechanisms	Treatments	Body parts	Injury type
Near miss	IP	0	Loss of control of vehicle	Motor vehicle or road surface (e.g. pothole caused loss of control)	Vehicle loss of control	None	None	None
Near miss	IP	0	Failure to adhere to SOP (e.g. missed a step in a defined standard operation procedure)	Mechanical failure (e.g. failure of a structure, mechanical breakdown or other physical fault of equipment)		None	None	None
Identified risk	IP	0	Misjudgement of risk (a person underestimated the level of risk in a task or operation)	Many local people walked close to the cables		None	None	None
Identified risk	IP	0	Misjudgement of risk (a person underestimated the level of risk in a task or operation)	Irregular surface displacement	Fall on level < 1.2m (slip, trip, stumble)	None	None	None

## 2.6 Risk Pattern Commentary

The following patterns are observed when comparing the latest results to the previously reported results:

- A high response rate was achieved this quarter, with only one eligible member missing the reporting deadline.
- The total number of incidents reported was similar to previous quarters.
- Three out of 15 incidents this quarter reported an injury (20%), which is the lowest rate of injury incidents in the history of the Safety Reporting System. This confirms the view that members have returned to reporting less serious incidents as well as more serious ones.
- The rate of mobilisation incidents (101.6 incidents per 100,000 hours) has returned to a similar level to that seen one year ago in October-December 2014. This may suggest a seasonal effect on the rate of mobilisation incidents; however, several more years of data will be needed to confirm any seasonal effects.
- The rate of surveying incidents remains similar to that seen previously (11.7 incidents per 100,000 hours). All the incidents which resulted in an injury occurred during surveying.
- Whilst the **number** of incidents was similar for mobilisation and surveying, the **rate** of mobilisation incidents was about 10 times higher than the rate of surveying incidents, showing that higher risks are associated with mobilisation. Throughout the history of the Safety Reporting System, the rate of mobilisation incidents has always been much higher than the rate of surveying incidents.
- Lost person hours were only reported for two incidents (both near-misses): 1 hour for one incident and 3 hours for the other. These were both reported by the same member. It is possible that other members are not reporting time lost due to incidents where there is no injury (such as time spent repairing a vehicle).
- No lost person hours were reported for the three incidents in which an injury occurred, although they all required first aid and/or a doctor or hospital visit. Members may be confused about the definition of **Lost Person Hours** in the GGSSA Safety Reporting System, which is not the same as a **Lost Time Injury** as used by government work safety authorities. This is how the difference is explained in the Safety Reporting System form instructions:

*The final question asks about **Lost Person Hours**. This means the number of person hours lost due to the incident, which may include time lost due to waiting for a replacement vehicle, undertaking first aid or recovering from an injury. Lost Person Hours may occur even if there is no injury caused by the incident. Reporting lost person hours for an incident does **not** automatically mean that the incident will be*

*classified as a **Lost Time Injury (LTI)** in your own Workplace Health and Safety system. LTI generally refers to an injury that results in the injured person taking time off work on the day or days following the injury and does not include time lost on the day of the injury. Lost Person Hours is a more detailed classification that allows us to measure the effect of even minor incidents (even if no injury is caused).*