

Inquest into the death of Kingsley Rex Wade

Kingsley Rex Wade died on 27 October 2011 whilst employed by Steelcon Cava Pty Ltd in Mt Isa. Mr Wade was breathing the air supply from a diesel air compressor to an enclosed helmet which became contaminated by excessive carbon monoxide. He died from carbon monoxide toxicity against a background of coronary artery atheroma.

Coroner Comans delivered his findings of inquest on 23 October 2015.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported.

The departments named in this response will provide implementation updates until the recommendation is delivered. Further information relating the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible minister named in the response.

Recommendation 1

A requirement be included in the appropriate codes of practice that when air compressors driven by internal combustion engines are used to provide breathing air to persons, that the high temperature protection cut out switch be of the type that if disconnected or not functioning, the engine will not start.

Response and action: the recommendation is agreed to in part and is implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Treasury.

On 10 March 2016 the Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs responded:

The Office of Industrial Relations Queensland agrees it is appropriate to require a high temperature protection cut out switch when breathing air is connected to air compressors driven by internal combustion engines. However, as codes of practice do not contain requirements, the Office of Industrial Relations Queensland will instead produce an information sheet outlining the specifications of the high temperature cut out switch.

By end June 2016, the OIR will develop an information sheet outlining the specifications of the high temperature protection cut out switch.

On 23 December 2016 the Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations, Minister for Racing and Minister for Multicultural Affairs responded:

The Office of Industrial Relations published an information sheet titled [Carbon monoxide in breathing air during air compressor use](#).