



SAFETY ALERT

DATE: 27th Nov 2023

SA: 0006

TITLE:

HPWJ Equipment Fire

INDUSTRY SECTOR:

Water utilities

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Waste networks, wastewater treatment and operational jetting contractors

ORIGINAL SAFETY ALERT ISSUED BY

Ausjet

A drain cleaning operator returned a high pressure water jetting drain cleaning unit to the depot. Another worker saw smoke coming out of the rear door, then used a fire extinguisher to put out a small fire.

Previous damage had occurred to the drawer and hinge. As the issue had not been reported and/or resolved, other parts of the vehicle were being used to store equipment.

PREVENTATIVE ACTION

- Conduct thorough pre-start checks when picking up vehicles.
- Any damage/problem identified will need a request for repair to be completed
- Battery covers must be kept in place to prevent arcing across the battery terminals
- Tools, PPE, and ancillary equipment need to be housed in correct storage areas
- Regular checks need be undertaken to ensure HPWJ units are not overloaded and equipment is in good condition and stored appropriately

LEARNINGS

- Report damage to equipment immediately
- Always store equipment in its designated storage area

