

# Grimsby Telegraph

## Workforce shocked at digger driver dock tragedy

By [Grimsby Telegraph](#) Posted: March 02, 2016



THE workforce at Immingham Docks was in shock today after a **man died when the vehicle he was driving plunged into the water.**

A large-scale rescue operation, involving police divers and the search and rescue helicopter, was launched at Mineral Quay at around 8.30am yesterday after the **vehicle, thought to be a digger, went into the water.**

Last night police confirmed a male, who was understood to be the driver of the vehicle, was recovered from the water.

A spokesperson said: "A man has died following an industrial incident at Immingham Docks.

"Police were called to the scene shortly after 8.30am to reports of a truck having entered the water at the dockside.

"Humberside Police are working with the Health And Safety Executive to establish the circumstances surrounding the incident.

"The man is yet to be formally identified."

The incident is understood to have occurred close to a scrap metal site on Mineral Quay.

A worker on Immingham docks, who asked not to be identified, spoke of his shock after the incident.

"There were a lot of people saying a digger had gone into the dock and the driver was still in it," he said.

"It's definitely a shock. I've not seen anything like this before down here."  
He added: "All of the workforce is obviously in shock and it's what everyone is talking about."

The worker also explained how ships were prevented from entering the dock for around three hours while the rescue operation took place.

A Fire And Rescue Service spokeswoman said fire engines were "on standby" at the time but did not carry out any duties.

The Humber Coastguard from Hull and Cleethorpes were also called to the scene and members of Nottinghamshire Underwater Search & Rescue were also escorted to the scene by police.

A spokesperson for the Health And Safety Executive said: "We have received a report. "We are aware and are making enquiries rather than investigating."

Steve Pratten, community response manager at East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS), said: "EMAS received a call to a vehicle in the water at around 8.50am.

"An ambulance and the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance attended the scene. "EMAS resources did not transport the patient to hospital."

Immingham is the largest port in the UK by cargo handled, with dry bulk materials leading the way to the annual 55 million tonnes. Coal and, increasingly, biomass in the form of wood pellets, are the headline imports – with exclusive facilities, largely automated, built within the river itself. Mineral Quay is located on the south west arm of the inner dock, accessed through lock gates from the River Humber.