

Surface Mobile Equipment Safety Program

Covered mobile equipment: categories and examples:

The Surface Mobile Equipment Safety Program rule applies to wheeled, rail-mounted, track-mounted, and skid-mounted mobile equipment capable of moving, or being moved, and any powered equipment that transports people, equipment, or materials. The equipment need not be self-propelled.

- Examples of wheeled mobile equipment include trucks (haul, flatbed, fuel, service, bulk tanker, water, tractor-trailers, etc.), forklifts, front end loaders, wheeled skid-steer loaders, cranes, self-propelled aerial lifts, graders, self-propelled earthmoving scrapers and roller/compactors.
- Examples of rail-mounted mobile equipment include locomotives, railcars, railcar movers, and overhead and gantry cranes.
- Examples of track-mounted equipment include bulldozers, excavators, backhoes, power shovels, draglines, tracked, multi-terrain and skid-steer loaders, and drills.
- Examples of skid-mounted equipment include light plants, fuel tanks and portable equipment on frames, plates, rails or pallets. This equipment can be moved about the mine or mill, but normally remains in one location or in storage. The rule applies only when this equipment is being moved or relocated.
- More information about covered mobile equipment can be found in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document posted on MSHA's Surface Mobile Equipment Safety Program webpage.

The rule does NOT apply to:

- Mobile equipment used in underground mines and brought to the surface for maintenance or repair;
- Manually powered tools such as wheelbarrows, hand carts, push carts, welding carts, cylinder carts, basic hand trucks, or dollies.
- Belt conveyors, radial or fixed-position stacking conveyors, or circular or longitudinal stackers and reclaimers;
- Portable crushers or screening plants;
- Boats or dredges;
- Towed equipment such as air compressors, welding machines, non-self-propelled aerial lifts, and light plants mounted on wheeled chasses. However, mobile equipment performing the towing are covered.

Disclaimers

MSHA is providing best practices, methods, lists of equipment, templates and example programs as guidance to assist operators in developing and updating a surface mobile equipment safety program. This guidance is not all inclusive and is for informational purposes. Because each mine has unique conditions and features, each operator is responsible for tailoring its surface mobile equipment safety program to meet its individual mine's needs. (30 U.S.C. § 952(b))

As part of the agency's cooperative programs with its Alliance partners, State grantees, and others, MSHA is providing mining industry-developed templates as guidance in developing and updating your mine-specific surface mobile equipment safety program. (30 U.S.C. §§ 952(b), 962)

MSHA does not endorse any of the products, suppliers, or manufacturers provided. All references to non-governmental companies or organizations, their services, products, or resources are offered for informational purposes and should not be construed as an endorsement by the Department of Labor, of any of the companies or organizations, or their services, products, or resources. (Department of Labor Manual Series ((DLMS) 9-100, 123B.5.c)

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