

DISTRICT SAFETY & HEALTH NOTES

PLANT STARTUP WARNINGS



30 CFR 56/57.14200 addresses crusher startup and requires a warning audible above the surrounding noise level or other effective means of warning all persons who could be exposed to a hazard from the equipment.

Does your plant have an adequate warning system to alert all persons that could be exposed to the hazards associated with crushers and conveyors as they start up? In other words, does the system ensure that all persons are clear?

There are many things to take into account when you consider whether your startup warning system is adequate.

- Is the warning system automated or manual?
- Is the warning system visual, audible, or other?
- Is the system effective in warning persons at any location where startup will create a hazard?
- Is equipment startup delayed long enough to give a person time to stand clear?
- Is another warning given when a conveyor or series of conveyors does not start within 30 seconds of the previous warning?

- Does your plant have more than one series of conveyors? For example, does the plant have more than one circuit?
- Is the warning system still effective after some equipment has started? For instance, can you hear an audible conveyor warning above the noise of a nearby crusher?
- Is the system flexible enough to provide a warning when restarting only a portion of the plant during the shift?
- Have all employees been trained on the plant startup warning system?
- Is the warning system properly maintained?
- Is the warning system tested periodically to ensure that it is working effectively?
- Is the warning system updated after making an addition to the plant?
- Is there an effective lock out and tag out program in place to supplement the plant startup warning system?

If you have any questions about your plant startup warning system, please contact any MSHA office for compliance assistance.



Conveyor startup is addressed in 30 CFR 56/57.14201 and requires a visible or audible warning when the entire length of the conveyor is not visible from the starting switch.