



Fatality #31 – November 10, 2003
Machinery - Surface - Kentucky
Knott Floyd Land Company – No. 17

COAL MINE FATALITY - On Monday, November 10, 2003, a 30-year old independent contractor employee with two weeks of experience was fatally injured while clearing trees and brush in advance of mining operations at a surface mine. The victim was in the process of making the second cut with a chain saw when the tree split. The base of the tree rapidly moved upward, striking him in the head.



Best Practices

- Know and follow proper tree felling practices.
- Clear a fall path and landing zone and consider the lean of the tree and the slope of the ground.
- Provide adequate training for all employees on proper work procedures and hazard recognition and avoidance.
- Wear properly maintained personal protective equipment which may prevent or reduce the severity of an injury.
- Always position yourself away from potential hazards, and always have a route of escape available.

This was the 30th fatality in the coal mining industry in 2003 and the 7th fatality classified as Machinery. As of this date in 2002, there had been 23 fatalities including two classified as Machinery.