



**Fatality #14 - August 9, 2003**

**Slip/Fall of Person - NV - Miscellaneous Nonmetallic Minerals  
Eagle Picher Minerals, Inc. - Colado Plant**

**METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY** - On August 9, 2003, a 40-year-old maintenance man, with 5 months mining experience, was fatally injured at a surface milling operation that processes diatomaceous earth. The victim was tracking a water line, walked out onto the roof of a building, and fell through a skylight, 29 feet to a concrete floor below.



**Best Practices**

- Pre-plan maintenance work to identify hazards associated with the task and implement measures to ensure persons are properly protected.
- Discuss the procedures developed to safely perform the task with all personnel before performing the work.
- Require fall protection for all employees exposed to possible falls from heights, such as from roofs.
- Require all personnel to be adequately trained to help them recognize and understand procedures to safely perform tasks.

This is the 14<sup>th</sup> fatality reported in calendar year 2003 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 2002, there were 22 fatalities reported in these industries. This is the third fatality classified as slip/fall of person in 2003. There was one slip/fall of person fatality in the same period in 2002.