

MNMM Fatal 2005-32

- Powered Haulage
- November 4, 2005 (Alabama)
- Crushed Stone Operation
- Laborer
- 17 years old
- 5 weeks mining experience

Overview

- The victim was fatally injured while being task trained to operate a haul truck. He was backing the truck down a grade and lost control. The truck traveled through a berm and fell 21 feet to a bench below. The accident occurred because the task training procedures for the newly hired miner were inadequate and did not ensure that he could safely operate the haul truck. The trainee operator had no previous experience operating heavy equipment. He was not wearing a seat belt at the time of the accident.



Rear of truck struck bench
then flipped backwards

Truck went through berm

Causal Factor

- Management policies, procedures, and controls were inadequate and failed to ensure that employees received training in the health and safety aspects and safe working procedures relating to operating mobile equipment. The new miner being trained did not demonstrate the skills to maintain control of the equipment where he was assigned to operate. Task training at this mine was inadequate. The new miner assigned to operate the haul truck had no previous experience operating large mobile equipment.

Best Practices

- Task train new miners in all phases of mobile equipment operation at locations designated for training only. Provide classroom training that includes a thorough review of the Operator's Manual before hands-on training of operating mobile equipment.
- Experienced miners providing task training must be knowledgeable of all safety requirements and proficient in the safe operation of mobile equipment.
- Conduct pre-operational checks to identify any defects that may affect the safe operation of mobile equipment before placing it into service.
- Always wear a seat belt when operating mobile equipment.