



**Fatality #35 - November 29, 2005**  
**Exp Vessels Under Pressure - NM - Copper Ore NEC**  
**Chino Mines Company - SX-EW**

**METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY** - On November 29, 2005, a 42-year old repairman with 1 year and 24 weeks mining experience was fatally injured at a copper ore operation. The victim was pressurizing a pontoon with compressed air to locate leaks. The end section ruptured and struck him.



**Best Practices**

- Stop, Look, Analyze, and Manage (SLAM) each task to identify all potential hazards. Practice safe work habits during the entire task.
- Train miners in safe work procedures before beginning repairs.
- When compressed air is used, take all necessary precautions to protect persons from injury.
- Use alternative methods to locate air leaks.

This is the 35<sup>th</sup> fatality reported in calendar year 2005 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 2004, there were 22 fatalities reported in these industries. This is the 1st fatality classified as Exploding Vessels Under Pressure in 2005. There were no Exploding Vessels Under Pressure fatalities in the same period in 2004.

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The information provided in this notice is based on preliminary data ONLY and does not represent final determinations regarding the nature of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.

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