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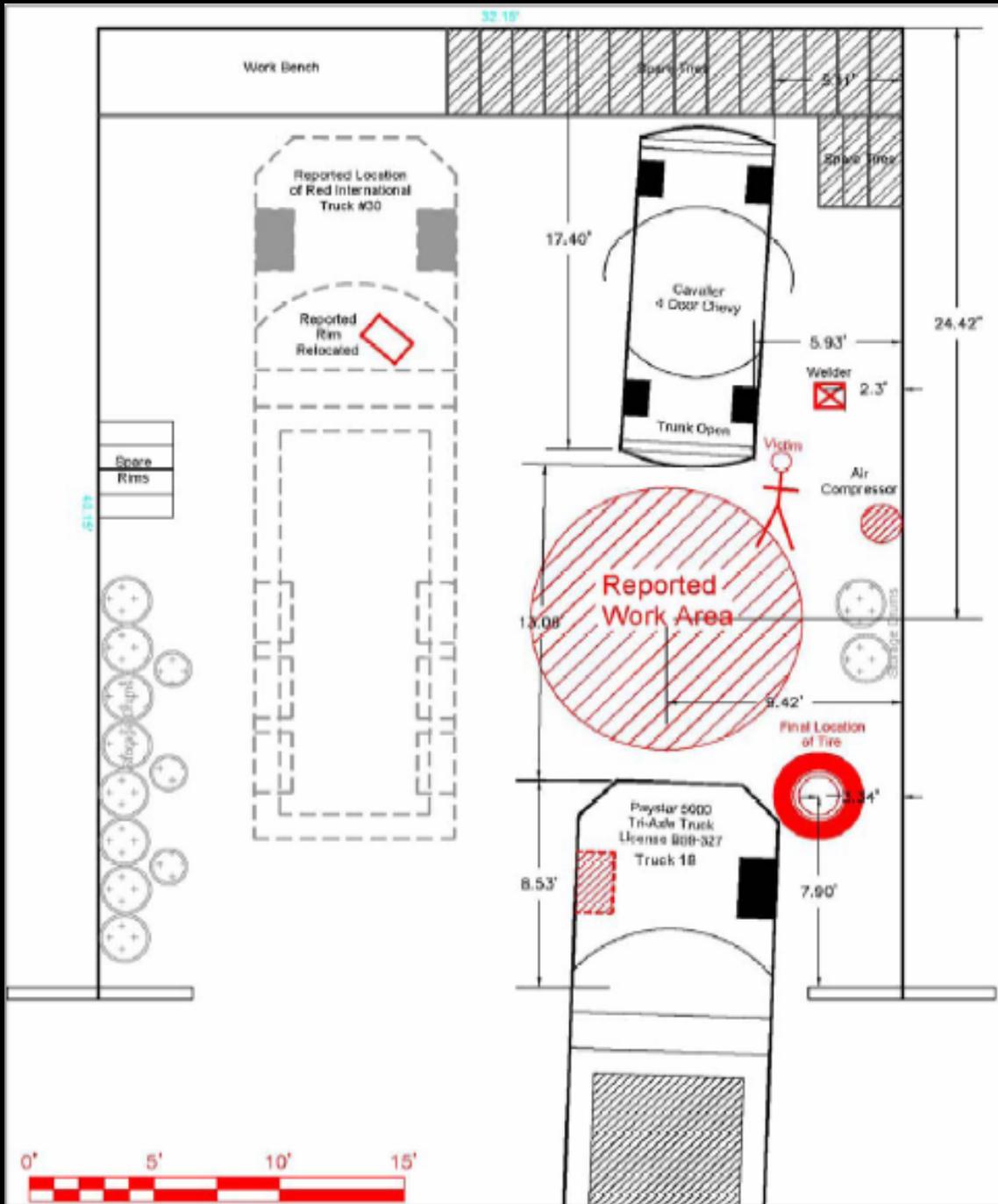
# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Coal Mine Fatal Accident 2006-37



Operator:	Carter Roag Coal Company
Contractor:	Circle M Enterprises, Inc.
Mine:	Star Bridge Preparation Plant-Rail Loadout
Accident Date:	July 30, 2006
Classification:	Exploding Vessel Under Pressure
Location:	Dist. 3, Randolph County, West Virginia
Mine Type:	Surface Coal Facility

# ACCIDENT DESCRIPTION



On Sunday July 30, 2006, at approximately 3:00 p.m., a 30 year old contractor truck driver and welder, with approximately 10 years of welding experience, was fatality injured while welding and grinding on a tire rim that had an inflated tire mounted on it. The victim had been employed by the contractor for 23 days. The heat from welding and grinding resulted in an ignition and explosion as the interior of the tire released combustible gases as the tire was heated.

# ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS

Root Cause: Management did not have effective safety procedures for replacing truck tires, rims/wheels, and prohibiting the repair of rims.

Corrective Action: Management has instituted policies prohibiting the repair of rims, replacement of tires and rims, and procedures for general tire/rim safety. In the replacement policy, damaged rims/or wheels shall be replaced according to manufacturer recommendations. Management has trained all affected miners in these new policies.

Root Cause: Procedures and policies were not in place to ensure that training requirements were being met. Lack of training pursuant to 30 CFR 48.27(c) further contributed to the likelihood of the accident.

Corrective Action: The operator shall provide instruction in the safety and health aspects and safe work procedures for the task of tire and rim repair (replacement).

# **ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS**

**§103(k) Order, No. 7099732 was issued to Circle M Enterprises Inc., to ensure the safety of all persons until an investigation was completed and the equipment and the area deemed safe.**

**§104 (a) Citation, No. 6602328, was issued to Circle M Enterprises Inc. for a violation of Title 30 CFR 77.1607(I).**

**On Sunday July 30, 2006, at approximately 3:00 p.m., a 30 year old truck driver/welder, employed by Circle M Enterprises, Inc., was fatally injured in the truck shop located near the Star Bridge Preparation Plant. The victim was welding and/or grinding on a truck rim that had an inflated mounted tire. The fatal accident was caused by the application of heat to the tire rim, which caused a buildup and ignition of combustible gases inside the tire.**

**The victim had been employed by the contractor for 23 days.**

# **ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS, Cont'd.**

**§104(a) Citation, No. 6602329, was issued to Circle M Enterprises, Inc. for a violation of Title 30 CFR 48.25(a).**

**On Sunday July 30, 2006, at approximately 3:00 p.m., a 30 year old truck driver/welder, employed by Circle M Enterprises, Inc., was fatally injured in the truck shop located near the Star Bridge Preparation Plant. The victim was welding and/or grinding on a truck rim that had an inflated mounted tire. Through interviews and reviewing the training records of Circle M Enterprises, Inc., it was determined the operator did not provide the victim with comprehensive training as required in 30 CFR Part 48.25(a) (Training of new miners).**

**Through interviews and the investigation, it was determined the victim's occupation was Truck Driver/Welder. One of the job assignments was hauling refuse from the Star Bridge Preparation Plant to the Refuse Storage Area. This occupation is part of the production process and regularly exposed the victim to mine hazards. Therefore the victim was a miner as defined in 30 CFR Part 48.22 (a) (1). Through the interviews it was also determined the victim never worked in or around a surface or underground mine prior to this employment.**

**If the victim was given the above training, then he would have been aware the task he was performing would require additional hazard specific training.**

# **ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS, Cont'd.**

**§104(d)(1) Citation, No. 6602330, was issued to Circle M Enterprises Inc. for a violation of Title 30 CFR 48.27(c).**

**On Sunday July 30, 2006, at approximately 3:00 p.m., a 30 year old truck driver/welder, employed by Circle M Enterprises, Inc., was fatally injured in the truck shop located near the Star Bridge Preparation Plant. The victim was welding and/or grinding on a truck rim that had an inflated mounted tire. Through the interviews and reviewing the training records of Circle M Enterprises it was determined the operator did not instruct the victim in the safety and health aspects and safe work procedures as required in 30 CFR Part 48.27 (c) for the task of Rim and Tire Repair (Replacement).**

**Through the interviews and the investigation it has been determined the operator had knowledge the victim was going to repair the truck rim.**

**If the victim was given the above training, then he would have recognized the hazard specific to the task he was performing.**

# BEST PRACTICES

- **Never apply heat to any rim or rim/hub assembly that has an inflated or deflated tire mounted on it.**
- **Never attempt to rework, weld, heat or braze wheel parts unless specifically provided for by the manufacturer's recommendations.**
- **Provide a tire and rim safety training program for all personnel working on or around tires and rims.**