

MNMM Fatal 2007-08

- Falling Machinery Accident
- April 18, 2007 (Minnesota)
- Iron Ore Operation
- Drill Operator
- 50 years old
- 31 years experience

Overview

The victim was fatally injured while operating a drill positioned near the edge of a highwall bench. The drill tipped on its side and he was ejected from the operator's cab and over the edge of the highwall.



Causal Factor

Management policies and procedures were inadequate and failed to ensure that persons could safely operate the drill on slopes and grades that were compatible with the drill's specifications and guidelines.

Best Practices

- Prior to performing work, Stop, Look, Analyze, Manage (SLAM) to identify all possible hazards, and ensure steps are taken to safely perform the task.
- Ensure all jacks and leveling devices are functioning properly. Visually inspect leveling jacks for loose or missing bolts and broken welds.
- Ensure miners are trained to visually inspect ground conditions to identify signs of instability prior to positioning drills.