



**Fatality #8 - April 18, 2007**  
**Machinery - Minnesota - Iron Ore**  
**United Taconite LLC - United Mine**

**METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY** - On April 18, 2007, a 50 year-old driller, with 31 year mining experience, was fatally injured at an iron ore operation. The victim was operating a drill positioned near the edge of a bench when the drill tipped on its side. The victim was ejected from the operator's cab and fell over the edge of the highwall.



**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.

This is the 8<sup>th</sup> fatality reported in calendar year 2007 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 200, there were 6 fatalities reported in these industries. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Machinery fatality in 2007. There were two Machinery fatalities in the same period in 2006.

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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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