



**Fatality #39 - June 24, 2010**  
**Machinery - Underground - Kentucky**  
**Leeco Incorporated - #68**

**COAL MINE FATALITY** - On June 24, 2010, a 29 year old continuous mining machine operator with 12 years experience received fatal injuries when he was caught between the right rib and the remote controlled continuous mining machine he was operating.



**Best Practices**

- Install MSHA approved Proximity Detection Systems on continuous mining machines.  
[http://www.msha.gov/Accident\\_Prevention/NewTechnologies/ProximityDetection/ProximitydetectionSingleSource.asp](http://www.msha.gov/Accident_Prevention/NewTechnologies/ProximityDetection/ProximitydetectionSingleSource.asp)
- Avoid "Red Zone" areas associated with remote controlled continuous mining machines and other mobile equipment.  
<http://www.msha.gov/webcasts/coal2004/REDZONE2.pdf>
- Ensure equipment is being operated safely, especially in low mining heights, and slippery and uneven floor conditions.
- Maintain equipment in a safe operating condition.
- Observe work practices and provide timely feedback.

This is the 39<sup>th</sup> fatality reported in calendar year 2010 in the coal mining industry. As of this date in 2009, there were 8 fatalities reported in the coal mining industry. This is the third fatality classified as Machinery in 2010. At this time in 2009, there was one fatality in this classification.

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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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