



June 9, 2003 - Preliminary Summary of a Non-Fatal Surge-Pile Accident at Drummond Company's Shoal Creek Mine, Alabama

Preliminary reporting indicates that a D10L Caterpillar dozer was backing up when a void (cavity) over a feeder near the dozer collapsed releasing methane gas that accumulated during void formation. The methane gas/dust entered the engine intake and ignited into a fire ball engulfing the dozer. The dozer operator received burns of the face, ear, arm, hand and both legs. Reportedly, the operator of the dozer was the same operator involved in the accident of November 15, 2002 at this same facility. The dozer did not drop into the void, but remained on top of the pile. More details of this incident will be available upon issue of a final report.