



# Handling Material at Aggregate Operations



Abdominal Hernias

Amputations

## Handling Material Injuries

- In 2010, there were 549 handling material accidents at stone, sand, and gravel operations. No injuries were fatal.
- 13 Permanent Total Disability Cases were reported, resulting in Abdominal Hernias and Amputations.
- Miners are subject to the hazards of handling heavy and bulky materials, falling or improperly stacked objects, and repetitive bending, twisting, and turning movements all pose hazards.
- Ensure that persons are trained to properly handle materials.

## Best Practices

- Always wear personal protection equipment such as work gloves, safety boots, safety glasses/goggles, or metatarsal guards . Attach handles or holders to loads for lifting or seek help.
- When using mechanical lifting, know the limit. The load capacity must be displayed on all lifting equipment.
- Ergonomics – modifying the workplace to fit the needs of the user - must be implemented in order to avoid back injuries.
- Reduce the size and weight of lifted object, use a lifting aid, change the height, or use a shelf.

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