Roof bolter operators are involved in many fatalities in the mining industry. To perform their jobs safely, roof bolter operators must follow these Best Practices.

- Never travel inby permanent roof supports, especially to mark a roof bolting pattern.
- Always visually examine the roof, face, and ribs immediately before any work is started.
- Always test roof, face, and ribs; do not take shortcuts.
- Keep a bar of suitable length on the roof bolting machine to scale down loose rock. (Pry Up, Not Down!)
- Ensure the ATRS system is in proper operating condition before installing bolts.
- Never operate the roof bolter when the ATRS is inoperative or does not make firm contact with roof.
- Only use manufacturers’ approved extensions for ATRS systems.
• Ensure the roof bolter is in proper operating condition before installing bolts; this includes all levers, tram control, panic bar, etc.

• Know and follow the approved roof control plan; this includes all manufacturers’ recommendations on installation of bolts and resin.

• Add additional supports at any indication of adverse roof conditions.

• Stay in a safe location under permanent support when installing roof supports.

• Always follow bolt installation sequence.

• Drill all holes to proper depth (not over one inch deeper than the bolt’s length).

• Use the proper finishing bit when installing shell type bolts.

• Be sure resin is maintained at mine temperature before use.

• Check to ensure all bolts are installed in the proper torque range.

• Drill additional test holes if there is a question about adverse roof conditions.

• Roof conditions detected during drilling should be communicated by the roof bolter to coworkers.

• Never hold drill steel or place hands on drill pot while installing bolts.

• Control respirable dust.