

Moving to a New Location, Mine, or Job



Best Practice Series BP-29



Fifty percent of all miners involved in roof and rib accidents have over 15 years of total mining experience. In about 20 percent of the roof and rib accidents, the miners have less than one year of mining experience.

Following the best practices listed below will ensure a job can be done safely:

- Miners must realize that they are responsible for not only their own personal safety but the safety of coworkers.
- Since miners moving to new jobs and locations are involved in such a large number of accidents, operators must ensure all task training has been completed.
- Since hazards can vary from mine to mine or section to section due to different conditions – such as geology, mining practices, and individual work habits – each miner should become familiar with all these new conditions related to the new job.
- Miners should be familiar with the roof control plan and its requirements for the

work area. Some provisions, such as mining method and sequence, may vary significantly at different locations.

- Miners should be aware of all revisions and changes to the approved roof control plan.
- Machine operators should become familiar with the different controls from one type of machine to another.
- Miners should learn the safety features, capabilities, and limitations of the equipment.
- Workers should be aware that each job requires different physical and mental skills.
- Miners should learn the maintenance requirements for the machine they are operating.
- Miners should learn the work habits of the other miners on the section.
- After moving to a new work area, each person should immediately find the escapeways and self-contained self-rescuer locations.

Arrive Home Alive

**U.S. Department of Labor
Mine Safety and Health Administration
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