Accidents involving mobile equipment, particularly trucks, continue to claim the lives of miners.

Injuries and even fatalities to truck drivers usually result from:

- Drivers operating trucks with safety defects, such as inadequate brakes.
- Trucks going over the edge of roads or dumping points due to overtravel and/or the lack of proper berm, or the collapse of the edge of the slope.
- Loss of control due to equipment failure or operator error.
- Inadequate training of drivers related to the equipment they are operating and the roads and conditions over which they are driving.
- Failure to wear seat belts.
- Driving when tired or drowsy or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Overloading or operating on grades too steep and/or narrow for the load being hauled.
- Not following traffic rules and signs.
- Operating at excessive speeds.
To prevent truck accidents, drivers should always:

- Check the equipment and correct all safety defects before use. Report any problems to mine management.
- Operate trucks only on well-bermed roads and stable areas. (Berms or guardrails should be at least mid-axle height.)
- Know the truck, its capabilities, its operating ranges and load limits, and be familiar with all of its safety features.
- Maintain and update training, especially when operating new equipment or when traveling over unfamiliar areas.
- Wear seat belts and not attempt to jump free.
- Get adequate rest and never drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Operate only on roads having grades compatible with the load and the width/length of the truck; and should not attempt to downshift after starting down grade.
- Follow traffic rules and directions of posted signs; and know the traffic patterns in use.
- Reduce speed where conditions warrant.
- Set the parking brake before dismounting or leaving truck.

Arrive Home Alive

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Mine Safety and Health Administration
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