

Conveyor Safety Tips for Plant Operators



Best Practice Series BP-50

Plant operators are exposed to more conveyor hazards than most other mine employees. Conveyors are often involved in many mining deaths and injuries. You can help yourself work safer. When near this machinery, watch for conveyor hazards and work safely.



Conveyors can grab you
... don't get caught up.

Working Smart

- **Lock out** the conveyor power switch and tag it before you work on that conveyor.
- Make sure **guards are in place**. Guards make conveyors safer.
- Make sure **everyone's in the clear** before you start the conveyor system.
- **Align the belt** from a safe place and only after you're sure the conveyor can't grab you.

- **Return idlers look safe, but they can hurt you.** Never try to fix or adjust them while the conveyor is running.
- **Stay clear of suspended loads** when in-stalling or repairing a conveyor.
- Conveyor **stop cords** are for your safety. Check them periodically to make sure they actually work.
- **Use a harness or safety belt and line** when working where you can fall from a conveyor.

Safe Maintenance

- **Don't manually dress moving belts.** Put only pressurized dressing on running conveyors.
- **Don't try to dislodge rocks** from pulleys while the conveyor is running.
- **Block conveyors against hazardous** motion before repairing or doing maintenance on the machine.

Arrive Home Alive

U.S. Department of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration

Visit our Web site at www.msha.gov

February 2009