

Bucket Repair

Best Practice Series

BP-56



Fatalities occurred in the anthracite industry to contract welders performing repair work.

Serious injuries also occurred when front-end loaders were being used as elevated work platforms and also used to stabilize or put pressure on a crack area.

In most cases, the miners involved were experienced in these tasks and probably used similar work practices in the past.

Safe work procedures must be established and followed at all times.

Due to their large size, heavy equipment such as dozers, front-end loaders, and cranes are frequently used to move and position the buckets during the repair.

REMEMBER:

- Once positioned, secure the bucket with legs or supports to prevent its accidental movement.
- Secure the spreader bar and chain, if attached when the bucket is positioned and secured, to prevent its shifting should the bucket shift when the ground settles or frozen ground thaws.
- If working alone, provide communication to other workers and check in at regular intervals.
- When multiple miners are working on a single bucket, establish an on-site communication system to eliminate accidental flash exposure from welding activities to the eyes.

Arrive Home Alive

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