

Evacuation Plans

Fire Protection

Best Practice Series

BP-93



Evacuation plans provide the road map which miners must use during an emergency. Miners must know their escapeways and be aware of their surroundings. Evacuation plans should be used when drills are conducted to reinforce the instructions outlined in the plan.

- **ALWAYS** know the location of primary and secondary escapeways leading from your assigned work area.
- **ALWAYS** know what duties your supervisor expects you to perform on your section in case of a fire, and know and follow the requirement in the plan for when you must evacuate.
- **ALWAYS** make certain to check in and check out every time you go underground. Check to be sure all doors can be opened from inside and outside.
- **ALWAYS** use available transportation when possible to escape from a mine fire before going on foot to escape.

It Happened . . .

- A fire occurred in the main entries. Haze and light smoke were detected first, followed by an alarm on the CO system. The mine was evacuated. Efforts to extinguish the fire failed, and the underground area was sealed.
- A mechanic encountered smoke while conducting a weekly examination of electrical installations. Upon being notified of the fire, mine officials ordered a mine-wide evacuation and directed men to escape via emergency escape facilities.
- The batteries on a scoop caught fire while being charged in the charging station. The batteries shorted together. The flames were extinguished with dry chemical, but reignited several times. The mine was evacuated.



Example of a check-in check-out board

Arrive Home Alive

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