



# Safety Alert



## Unsupported Roof

**Four miners have died from roof falls in the last three years, two were working or traveling under unsupported roof.**

Two of the four roof fall fatalities in the past 3 years have occurred when miners traveled or worked under unsupported roof. On May 31, 2024, a 27-year-old coal miner suffered fatal injuries from a roof fall when he traveled under unsupported roof. In May 2021, a 32-year-old continuous mining machine operator was killed by a roof fall when he was working under unsupported roof.



### Best Practices

**NEVER go under unsupported roof!**

#### **Mine Management:**

- Prohibit work or travel under unsupported roof.
- Train all miners and supervisors on the hazards of working and traveling into areas of unsupported roof.
- Identify and correct unsafe work practices.

#### **Roof Control Plans should include:**

- Identifying the next to last full row of permanent roof supports with highly visible markers at all approaches.
- Installing and maintaining adequately designed roof/ground control where miners work or travel.
- Guidance ensuring miners are safely positioned while setting temporary support.
- Installing temporary supports under the direct supervision of a certified foreman.

Report accidents and hazardous conditions: 1-800-746-1553

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