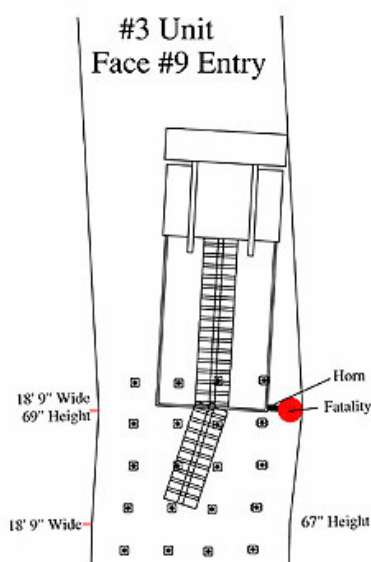




Fatality #23 - October 16, 2008
Machinery - Underground - Illinois
White County Coal, LLC - Pattiki

COAL MINE FATALITY - On Thursday, October 16, 2008, a 45-year old continuous mining machine operator was fatally injured in a crushing type accident. The operator was crushed between the cable horn on the radio-controlled continuous mining machine and the coal rib. The victim was apparently positioning the machine while standing adjacent to the cable horn. The coal seam height in this area was measured at 5 ½ feet. There were no witnesses to the accident.



Best Practices

- Install and maintain electronic proximity detection devices. [See the proximity detection single source page on the MSHA website.](#)
- Develop proactive programs, policies, and procedures for starting and tramming remote-controlled continuous mining machines.
- Train all production crews and management in the programs, policies, and procedures and ensure that they are followed.
- Ensure that mining machine operators are in a safe location while tramming the continuous mining machine from place to place or in the entry during cutting and loading.
- Ensure everyone is outside the machine turning radius before starting or moving the equipment.

The information provided in this notice is based on preliminary data ONLY and does not represent final determinations regarding the nature of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.
