

COAL MINE FATALITY – On Wednesday, June 4, 2014, a 25-year-old contract equipment operator with 24 weeks of experience was killed when he was crushed between the hood and frame of an impact crusher. The victim had just finished clearing a large rock from the crusher area when the accident occurred.



Best Practices

- Establish policies and procedures for safely clearing plugged material in a feeder hopper or crusher.
- Consult and follow the manufacturer's recommended safe work procedures for conducting the task.
- Ensure that persons are task trained and understand the hazards associated with the work being performed.
- **De-energize and lock-out/tag-out all power sources before working on equipment.**
- Ensure moving parts on machinery are blocked against motion before beginning maintenance or repairs.

- Ensure that blocking material is competent, substantial, and adequate to support and stabilize the load.
- Maintain equipment in safe working condition. Ensure safety devices are working properly.
- Do not place yourself in a position that will expose you to hazards.
- Monitor all personnel, with an emphasis on miners new to a task, routinely to determine that safe work procedures are followed.

This is the seventh fatality reported in calendar year 2014 in the coal mining industry and it is classified as Machinery. As of this date in 2013 there were eight fatalities reported in the coal mining industry. At this time in 2013 there were two fatalities in this classification.