

# Fatality Alert



**MINE FATALITY ALERT** – On September 5, 2019, a continuous mining machine helper was fatally injured when he was struck by a battery-powered scoop. The victim was in the #3 entry behind a wing curtain that provided ventilation to the #3 right crosscut being mined. The scoop was trammed through the #3 left crosscut and struck the victim as it made a right-hand turn and passed through the wing curtain.



## Best Practices

- **Install and maintain proximity detection systems** on mobile section equipment.
- Before operating mobile equipment, **inform miners of your travel route** – especially if changes are being made. Proceed with caution and watch for miners on foot.
- **STOP and SOUND an audible warning device** before traming equipment through ventilation curtains.
- **STAY ALERT around mobile section equipment.** Communicate your presence and intended movements to equipment operators.
- **Use transparent curtains for ventilation controls** on working sections.
- Be aware that noise can cause **moving equipment to not be heard.**

Miners and mine operators can find safety and health information on [MSHA.gov](https://www.msha.gov).

*This is the 18th mining fatality reported in 2019, and the sixth mining fatality classified as “powered haulage.”*