Fatality Alert

MINE FATALITY – On July 26, 2021, a contract employee, who was not wearing fall protection, was performing maintenance on a cement cooler when a wooden board broke, causing him to fall 23 feet onto a concrete floor.

Best Practices

- **Assure a safe means of access** is provided and maintained to all working places. Use personnel lifts or ladders to access elevated work areas safely.
- **Use fall protection** when a fall hazard exists. Ensure fall protection has a suitable fall arrest and secure anchorage system.
- **Examine work areas, tools, and equipment.** Report and correct defects. Do not use unsafe equipment.
- **Assess risks and eliminate or control hazards** before beginning maintenance activities. Do not place yourself in a position that will expose you to hazards while performing a task.
- **Train miners and ensure they perform work safely, use tools properly, and utilize personal protective equipment correctly.**

This is the 20th fatality reported in 2021, and the second classified as “Slip or Fall of Person.”

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.

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

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