

Fatality Alert

MINE FATALITY – On October 20, 2021, a 50-year-old mechanic with 12 years of experience was fatally injured when he was struck by the bucket of an excavator while assisting in repositioning a hopper.



Best Practices

- **Never position yourself** between mobile equipment and a stationary object.
- **Do not work in pinch points** where inadvertent movement could cause injury.
- **Carefully inspect and secure the pins in an excavator’s bucket** before each use.
- **Before beginning work**, analyze all tasks, establish safe work procedures, train miners, and eliminate hazards. Be alert for hazards that may be created while the work is performed.
- **Identify and apply methods** to protect personnel from hazards associated with the work performed.
- **Monitor all employees** to ensure safe work procedures, including safe work positioning, are followed.

This is the 30th fatality reported in 2021, and the 5th classified as “Machinery”

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

[msha.gov](https://www.msha.gov) | askmsha@dol.gov | [@MSHA_DOL](https://twitter.com/MSHA_DOL)