



**Fatality #1 - January 2, 2007**  
**Other - Texas - Alumina**  
**Alcoa World Alumina Atlantic - Bayer Alumina Plant**

**METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY** - On January 2, 2007, a 37 year-old instrument technician, with 2½ years experience, was fatally injured at an alumina operation. The victim partially opened a ball valve in an access pipe in preparation for maintenance. Hydrogen fluoride discharged from the pipe onto his face. He was hospitalized and died several hours later.



**Best Practices**

- Review maintenance and inspection practices to ensure all possible hazards have been identified and appropriate controls are in place to protect miners.
- Train miners in safe work procedures and hazard recognition, specifically when performing maintenance on pipelines.
- Require appropriate respiratory protection, special protective clothing, and face shields where hazards from gases, fumes, chemicals, or mechanical irritants may exist.
- Stop, Look, Analyze, and Manage, SLAM each task to identify all potential hazards Ensure that all hazards are eliminated so the task can be safely performed.

This is the 1<sup>st</sup> fatality reported in calendar year 2007 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 2006, there were no fatalities reported in these industries. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> 'Other' fatality in 2007. There were no 'Other' fatalities in the same period in 2006.