U.S. Department of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration

Fatalgrams and Fatal Reports

"Safety and Health are Values"

Fatality #10 – May 27, 2008

Powered Haulage - California - Stone (Crushed and Broken)

Syar Industries - Lake Herman Quarry

METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY - On May 27, 2008, a 52-year old truck driver with 2 years experience was fatally injured at a surface crushed stone mine. The victim backed a truck to the edge of a stockpile to dump. The truck went over the crest and fell approximately 30 feet to the floor below.



Best Practices

- Wear seat belts whenever operating mobile equipment.
- Maintain berms at least mid-axle height on the largest piece of equipment using a roadway.
- Visually inspect dumping locations prior to beginning work and as changing conditions warrant.
- Dump loads a safe distance back from the edge of a stockpile if it is suspected the ground may fail to support mobile equipment.
- Do not dump at the top of a stockpile while material is being loaded out below or near the edge of over-steepened stockpile faces.
- Maintain stockpile slopes at the angle of repose.

This is the 10th fatality reported in calendar year 2008 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 2007, there were 11 fatalities reported in these industries. This is the 3rd Powered Haulage fatality in 2008. There were two Powered Haulage fatalities in the same period in 2007.

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.