

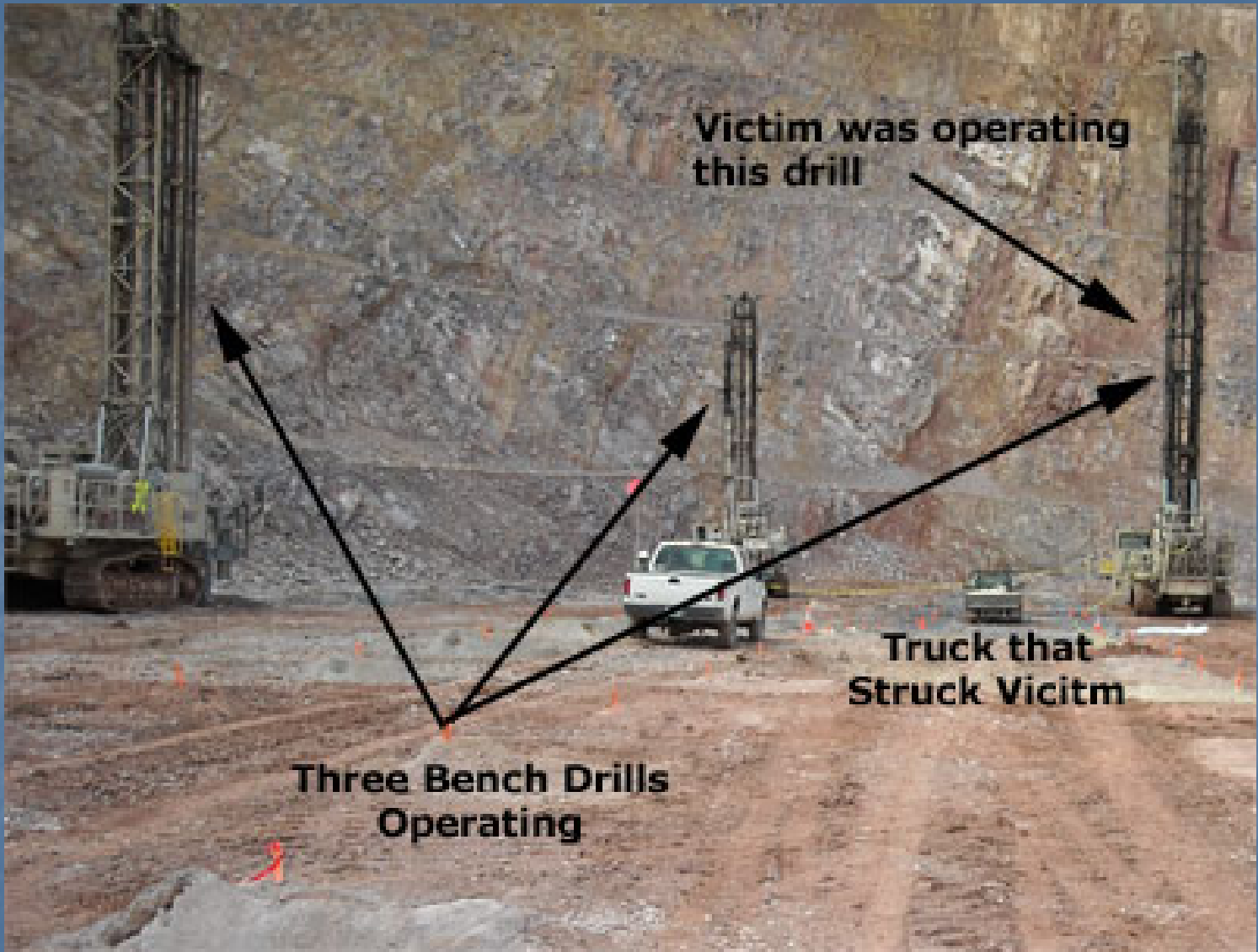
# MNMM Fatal 2009-10

- Powered Haulage Accident
- June 6, 2009 (Nevada)
- Gold Operation
- Driller
- 57 years old
- 27 years of experience

# Overview

The victim was fatally injured when he was struck by a flatbed truck as it backed up. He was drilling in a pit, exited the drill, and walked in the drilling area. The truck was in the area to collect drill cutting sample bags.

The accident occurred because management policies and procedures failed to address the hazards associated with foot traffic in this work area. The direction of travel for mobile equipment traveling in this area was not specified. The truck involved had backed up approximately 160 feet prior to striking the victim. Additionally, the back-up alarm was not mounted on the flatbed truck at a location recommended by the manufacturer.



**Victim was operating  
this drill**

**Truck that  
Struck Victim**

**Three Bench Drills  
Operating**

# Root Causes

- Root Cause: Management's policies and procedures were inadequate and failed to ensure that persons could safely walk in the drilling area.
- Corrective Action: Management implemented new policies and procedures for governing the direction of travel of mobile equipment in the drilling area. All persons working in the drilling area were trained regarding the procedures.
- Root Cause: Management's policies failed to ensure the flatbed truck operating in the drilling area had a back-up alarm audible above the surrounding noise levels.
- Corrective Action: Management implemented new policies and procedures to ensure back-up alarms were installed on mobile equipment in locations as recommended by the manufacturer to allow for the alarms to be audible above the surrounding noise levels.

# Best Practices

- Before moving mobile equipment, look in the direction of travel, use all mirrors, cameras, and installed proximity detection devices to ensure no one is in the intended path.
- Sound the horn to warn persons of movement and wait to give them time to get to a safe location.
- Operate mobile equipment at reduced speeds in work areas.
- Do not operate mobile equipment in reverse for extended distances when it is possible to travel forward.
- Be aware of the location of mobile equipment in your work area before exiting your equipment.
- Communicate with mobile equipment operators and ensure they acknowledge your presence.
- Wear high visibility clothing when working around mobile equipment.
- Train all miners to recognize work place hazards.