

MNMM Fatal 2010-20

- Powered Haulage Accident
- November 13, 2010 (Texas)
- Sand & Gravel Operation
- Contract Mechanic
- 42 years old
- 23 years of experience

Overview

The victim died when a front-end loader rolled over him. He was underneath the loader, with the engine running, checking for leaking fluid.

The accident occurred because management policies and procedures did not ensure that persons could safely perform maintenance tasks on a front-end loader. The power was not off and the front-end loader was not blocked against hazardous motion. The machine was parked on a slight grade, the bucket was raised off the ground, and the wheels were not chocked.



Root Causes

Root Cause: The contractor did not utilize safe work procedures while performing maintenance work on mobile equipment.

Corrective Action: The victim was a sole proprietor working as a contractor. Upon his death, the sole proprietorship ceased to exist.

Root Cause: Mine management failed to correct unsafe work practices by the contractor working on mobile equipment at the mine.

Corrective Action: All persons were retrained in proper procedures for working around unattended mobile equipment. Mine management will monitor contractors working at the mine for safe work practices.

Best Practices

- Train persons to recognize work place hazards.
- Establish safe work procedures before a task is performed and ensure that the safe work procedures are followed.
- Set the park brake and securely block equipment and components against hazardous motion at all times while performing repair or maintenance work.
- Do not rely on hydraulic systems to hold mobile equipment stationary during repairs or maintenance.
- Lower the bucket to the ground when parking mobile equipment.