

MNMF Fatal 2010-21

- Falling Material Accident
- November 30, 2010 (Washington)
- Crushed Stone Operation
- Crusher Operator
- 33 years old
- 7 years of experience

Overview

The victim died while performing maintenance on an over-the-road truck. He and a coworker were working under the rear portion of a ten-wheeled truck that was suspended by rigging attached to a hoist. The chain sling holding the truck slipped off the free end of the pintle-type hitch at the rear of the vehicle frame and released the load. The truck fell, striking the victim and the other miner who was seriously injured.

The accident occurred because management had not developed policies and procedures to provide safe practices when persons worked around or under equipment in a raised position. The truck was not blocked to prevent it from accidentally falling. Additionally, a safety latch was not provided for the hook of the chain rigging.



Root Cause

Root Cause: Management's policies, procedures, and controls were inadequate and failed to ensure that persons could safely perform maintenance in the shop. The truck was not blocked or mechanically secured to prevent it from falling or rolling accidentally.

Corrective Action: Management implemented policies, procedures, and controls to ensure that when mobile equipment is raised, it is properly blocked while persons perform maintenance in the shop. All persons were trained regarding the new procedures and will be monitored to ensure that these safe procedures are being followed.

Best Practices

- Establish safe work procedures before a task is performed and ensure that the safe work procedures are followed.
- Train persons to recognize the hazards of working under suspended loads.
- Securely block equipment against hazardous motion while performing maintenance work.
- Train all persons regarding the proper selection and use of lifting devices and rigging equipment.
- Use lifting devices and rigging that are compatible with the load being lifted.