MNM Fatal 2011-07

- Powered Haulage Accident
- August 9, 2011 (Minnesota)
- Sand & Gravel Operation
- Equipment Operator
- 24 years old
- 12 weeks of experience

Overview

The victim was killed when he contacted the crushing plant's feed belt conveyor head pulley components. He was standing on a catwalk while the belt conveyor was operating and became entangled in the head pulley components.

The accident occurred because management failed to ensure that moving machine parts were guarded to protect persons from contacting them. Additionally, the victim had limited mining experience and was not task trained regarding the health and safety hazards associated with operation of the crushing plant.


Victim's Location at
Time of Accident

Root Causes

Root Cause: Management failed to ensure that moving machine parts were guarded to protect persons from contacting them.

Corrective Action: Management established safe operating procedures to protect persons working around moving belt conveyor components. All moving machine parts were guarded to protect persons from contacting them. Since the accident, all persons were trained to recognize identifiable hazards and eliminate them before beginning any work near belt conveyors.

Root Cause: Management did not task train the victim regarding the health and safety hazards associated with operation of the crushing plant.

Corrective Action: Management trained all persons to identify hazards and eliminate them before beginning any work near belt conveyors.

Best Practices

- Identify hazards around conveyor systems, design guards, and securely install the guarding.
- Always provide and maintain guarding sufficient to prevent contact with moving machine parts.
- Train persons to recognize the hazards associated with performing tasks.
- Follow established lock-out and tag-out procedures before working on operating systems or moving machine parts.
- Remain aware of potential hazards in your work area and take actions to eliminate the risks.
- Do not wear loose fitting clothing when working near moving machine parts.