



Fatality #6 - May 15, 2012
Powered Haulage - Kentucky - Crushed, Broken Limestone NEC
Sterling Materials - Sterling Materials

METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY - On May 15, 2012, a 37 year-old haul truck driver with approximately 2½ years of experience was killed at an underground crushed stone operation. The victim was operating a loaded articulated haul truck down a slope when the truck went out of control and struck a rib. The tractor of the truck (cab) overturned. The victim was found outside of the cab and had been run over by the truck.



Best Practices

- Ensure that mobile equipment operators are task trained adequately and demonstrate proficiency in all phases of mobile equipment operation before performing work.
- Conduct adequate pre-operational checks and ensure the service brakes are properly maintained and will stop and hold the mobile equipment prior to operating.
- Operators of self-propelled mobile equipment shall maintain control of the equipment while it is in motion.
- Operating speeds shall be consistent with conditions of roadways, tracks, grades, clearance, visibility, curves, and traffic.
- Ensure that equipment manufacturer's load limits are not exceeded.
- Slow down or drop to a lower gear when necessary. Post areas where lower speeds are warranted.
- Always wear a seat belt when operating self-propelled mobile equipment.
- Ensure that equipment operators maintain adequate communications.

This is the 6th fatality reported in calendar year 2012 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 2011, there were 5 fatalities reported in these industries. This is the 2nd Powered Haulage fatality in 2012. There was 1 Machinery fatality in the same period in 2011.