



Fatality #7 - May 23, 2012

Machinery - Oklahoma - Construction Sand and Gravel

Meridian Aggregates Company, A Limited Partnership - Broken Bow Sand & Gravel

METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY - On May 23, 2012, a 36 year-old foreman with about 9½ years of experience was killed at a sand and gravel operation. He was operating an excavator on a dike separating two ponds. The ground beneath the excavator tracks failed and the excavator toppled into one of the ponds.



Best Practices

- Examine work areas to identify all hazards and remediate before starting any work.
- Evaluate the stability of the ground (slopes and berms) prior to operating equipment near any drop off or edge.
- Always be attentive to changes in ground conditions and visibility when operating machinery.
- Perform the work at a safe distance away from the edge of a pond or where the stability of the ground may be unknown.
- If a potential hazard is present, use long reach equipment to limit exposure and maintain a safe distance away.
- Consider areas that have experienced previous slope failures to be unstable and do not approach until the area is evaluated for stability.
- Wear flotation devices where there is a danger of falling into water.
- Be alert to changes in ground conditions such as cracking, bulging, sloughing, undercutting, and erosion.

This is the 7th 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 1st Machinery fatality in 2012. There was 1 Machinery fatality in the same period in 2011.