U.S. Department of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration

Fatalgrams and Fatal Reports

Fatality #9 - June 13, 2013 Powered Haulage - California - Crushed, Broken Stone NEC Stevens Creek Quarry Inc - Stevens Creek Quarry

METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY - On June 13, 2013, a 50-year old mechanic with 15 years of experience was killed at a stone operation. He was operating a 35 ton articulated haul truck down a haul road. The truck went out of control and hit a berm, propelling it in the air. The truck came to a stop with the bed overturned and the cab upright. The victim was ejected from the truck.



Best Practices

- Always wear a seat belt when operating self-propelled mobile equipment.
- Do not operate mobile equipment with reported brake problems. Use other means to move the mobile equipment to a safe area for inspection and repair.
- Ensure that mobile equipment operators are task trained adequately in all phases
 of mobile equipment operation, including the mobile equipment's capabilities,
 operating ranges, load-limits and safety features, before operating mobile
 equipment.
- Maintain equipment steering and braking systems in good repair and adjustment.
 Always follow the manufacturer's service and maintenance schedules.
- Never rely on engine brakes and transmission retarders as substitutes for keeping brakes properly maintained.
- Conduct adequate pre-operational checks to ensure the service brakes 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.
- Do not attempt to exit or jump from moving mobile equipment.

This is the 9th fatality reported in calendar year 2013 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 2012, there were 8 fatalities reported in metal and nonmetal mining. This is the 4th Powered Haulage fatality in 2013. There were 3 Powered Haulage fatalities in the same period in 2012.

The information provided in this notice is based on preliminary data ONLY and does not represent final determinations regarding the nature of the incident or conclusions regarding the cause of the fatality.