



**METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY**– On June 2, 2014, a 36-year-old shaft repairman with 18 years of experience was killed at an underground silver mine. Two miners were working in a shaft standing on a work platform attached to a skip. The skip was hoisted and the victim was crushed between the skip and the shaft timber.



## Best Practices

- Develop and implement a standard operating procedure (SOP) for the safe operation of hoists. Post these procedures near the hoist control panels in a conspicuous location and ensure persons are trained in these procedures.
- Establish and discuss safe work procedures before beginning work. Identify and control all hazards associated with the work to be performed and use methods to properly protect persons.
- Identify safe anchor points for fall protection and train all persons to understand the hazards related to fall protection and hoisting operations.
- Communicate work activities prior to beginning a task and maintain communications throughout the shift.
- Install audible and visual alarms which have adequate delay time to ensure persons are clear of impending hoist movement.
- Ensure all miners are accounted for before movement of the hoist.
- Conduct thorough examinations of all hoisting equipment and safety mechanisms on a daily basis. Ensure that persons conducting these examinations are trained adequately. Correct any deficiencies identified immediately.

This is the 13<sup>th</sup> fatality reported in calendar year 2014 in metal and nonmetal mining. As of this date in 2013, there were 8 fatalities reported in metal and nonmetal mining. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> Hoisting fatality in 2014. There were 0 Hoisting fatalities in the same period in 2013.