

MNM Fatal 2014-18

- Fall of Person
- August 25, 2014 (New York)
- Limestone Mine
- Truck Driver
- 54 years old
- 1½ years of experience

Overview

The victim was killed when he fell approximately 8 feet from loaded stacked pallets. He was attempting to retrieve wooden planks from the rafters in a bag storage building.

The accident occurred due to management's failure to establish and implement procedures for persons to safely access materials stored in the bag storage building. The victim did not receive task training addressing safe work procedures for accessing overhead areas and the potential hazards associated with the task.



Root Causes

Root Cause: Management failed to provide a safe means of access for miners retrieving stored materials from the overhead rafters in the bag storage building.

Corrective Action: All materials were removed from the overhead rafters and stored in a safe manner. In addition, management established written policies and safe work procedures, including the use of ladders for any work being performed overhead. Miners were trained in the new policies and procedures.

Root Cause: Management failed to provide the victim, an over-the-road truck driver, sufficient task training addressing safe access and safe work procedures while performing additional duties at the mine.

Corrective Action: Management has revised their Part 46 training plan to include task training for over-the-road truckers who may perform additional duties at the mine. All truck drivers were trained in accordance with the revised plan.

Best Practices

- 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.
- Ensure that persons are trained, including task-training, to understand the hazards associated with the work being performed.
- Develop a plan to store supplies and other items in an accessible way to ensure ease of retrieval and transportation.
- Always be aware of your surroundings and any hazards that may be present.
- Provide and maintain a safe means of access to all working places. Always work from a stable position.
- Do not assign a person to work alone in areas where hazardous conditions exist that would endanger his or her safety.
- Account for all persons at the end of each shift.