

MNM Fatal 2016-13

- Machinery
- September 21, 2016 (Virginia)
- Crushed & Broken Limestone Mine
- Drill Operator
- 52 years old
- 30 years of experience

Overview

On September 21, 2016, Donald L. Layton (victim), a 52 year old Contract Drill Operator/Mechanic, was fatally injured at a limestone mine while performing maintenance on a truck-mounted rotary drill. Layton was attempting to remove the spindle cap from the rotary drill using a modified pipe wrench and the machine's drill hydraulics. When he activated the drill lever, the wrench swung in a counterclockwise direction and struck him, piercing his abdomen.

The accident occurred due to the contractor's failure to develop and implement safe procedures for maintenance on the rotary drill.



Best Practices

- Establish and discuss safe work procedures to be used while performing maintenance on machinery. Incorporate the manufacturer's recommended operating procedures into related safety and task training programs.
- Train all persons to recognize the potential hazards and understand safe work procedures to eliminate hazards before beginning work.
- Ensure that machinery components are blocked against hazardous motion prior to performing maintenance or repairs.
- Use appropriate equipment and hand tools for the job.
- Do not place yourself in a position that will expose you to hazards while performing a task.
- Stay inside of the drill cab when operating the drill.
- Monitor personnel routinely to determine that safe work procedures are followed.