

MNM Fatal 2016-14

- Slip or Fall of Person
- September 15, 2016 (Nevada)
- Magnesite Mine
- Mechanic
- 60 years old
- 20 years of experience

Overview

On September 15, 2016, Gregory R. Duff, Mechanic (age 60), was injured while working on a front end loader. Duff had completed his assigned tasks and was dismounting the machine when he fell. He impacted the ground with his head, neck, and shoulders and was unconscious for several minutes. He was transported to Renown Hospital in Reno, Nevada and placed on life support. Duff died as a result of his injuries on September 26, 2016.

The accident occurred because management failed to ensure that policies and procedures on maintaining three points of contact while using ladders were followed.



Best Practices

- Always use the “Three Points of Contact” method. Use either two hands and one foot, or one hand and two feet when mounting and dismounting equipment.
- Keep hands free of any objects when making three points of contact.
- Maintain traction by ensuring footwear is free of potential hazards such as dirt, oil, and grease. Slip resistant material can be coated to existing foot holds and handrails.
- Use hoisting materials to transport tools and other objects that may keep hands from being free.
- Inspect contact areas for slip or trip hazards.
- Ensure steps and handrails are properly secured and free of defects and debris and always face equipment when mounting or dismounting it.
- Ensure landing areas are equipped with adequate lighting.