

Fatality Alert

MINE FATALITY – On October 9, 2020, a contractor was changing the nozzle on a hydroseeder and accidentally engaged the hydroseeder’s clutch while the nozzle was pointing towards him. The material sprayed from the nozzle struck him, causing him to fall backward and strike his neck on the hydroseeder handrail.



Best Practices

- **De-energize equipment while changing accessories** until the equipment is ready to use and the operator is properly positioned.
- **Position yourself to avoid hazards** resulting from a sudden release of energy.
- **Identify and apply methods to protect personnel from hazards** associated with the work being performed. This includes all applicable personal protective equipment for identified hazards.
- **Establish and discuss safe work procedures** before beginning work and ensure those procedures are followed.

This is the 18th fatality reported in 2020 and the fifth classified as “Machinery.”

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.