

PROP: SAFE SCALING

The Catch 22 of Scaling: Scaling is necessary to prevent loose material from falling on miners. However, hand scaling puts people below or next to the loose rock and is the method with which most scaling accidents occur.

DURING THE LAST 5 YEARS IN METAL AND NONMETAL MINES:

OVER 10% OF REPORTABLE UNDERGROUND ACCIDENTS OCCURRED DURING SCALING

82% OF SCALING ACCIDENTS OCCURRED WHILE MINERS WERE HAND SCALING

64% OF ALL SCALING INJURIES ABOVE WERE CAUSED BY ROCKS LESS THAN 12 INCHES IN DIAMETER

- Look at the area to be scaled from different angles
- Don't forget to sound - solid rock makes a ringing noise
- Always scale from good ground to bad
- When scaling ribs, work from top to bottom
- Use the proper length bar
- Make sure the bar is in good condition
- Hold the bar to one side, never in front
- Keep feet firmly planted with both hands on the bar
- Keep checking conditions throughout the shift
- Make sure nothing blocks your retreat

PRESHIFT NEVER ENDS!

PREVENTIVE

ROOF/RIB

OUTREACH

PROGRAM



WWW.MSHA.GOV

