



# **Quarterly Stakeholder Call**

## **January 24, 2019**

**U.S. Department of Labor**  
**Mine Safety & Health Administration**

# Agenda

- Welcome
- Opening Remarks
- Metal & Nonmetal 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Fatalities
- Coal 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Fatalities
- Powered Haulage Safety Initiative: Large Mobile Equipment
- Questions



# Introductory Remarks

David Zatezalo

Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety & Health



# Metal & Nonmetal 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Fatalities

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# MNM Fatal Accident Summaries

On October 2, 2018, a 40-year old miner with 20 years of experience was fatally injured when struck by stemming sand ejected from a borehole. While conducting a blasting operation in a new vertical raise, a contract foreman was attempting to clean out a previously blasted vertical borehole with high-pressure air. A sudden release of energy forced stemming sand from the bottom of the borehole, striking the miner.



On October 11, 2018, a 26-year old miner with 48 weeks of experience at the mine was fatally injured as a result of falling from on top of a previously cut block of granite. The victim was in the process of separating the cut block of granite from the highwall when the cut block suddenly slid out. The movement caused the miner, who was not wearing fall protection, to lose his balance and fall between the rock and the highwall causing fatal injuries.

# MNM Fatal Accident Summaries

On October 19, 2018, a 63-year old quarry manager, with 17 years of experience, was fatally injured when he lost control of the haul truck he was driving. The victim was operating a haul truck down a steep grade and traveled through a berm and over a short drop-off. The victim was not wearing a seat belt.



On October 25, 2018, a 29-year old laborer with 9 weeks of experience was fatally injured when the truck he was driving veered off the haul road and climbed an embankment, causing the truck to overturn. He was not wearing a seat belt.

# MNM Fatal Accident Summaries

On October 25, 2018, a 42-year-old powderman with 13 years of experience died when the backfill used in previously mined areas fell from the back/roof and buried him while he was loading blast holes. The cemented backfill weighed approximately 150 tons.



On November 11, 2018, a 45-year old underground technician with 4 years of experience was killed when the Load-Haul-Dump (LHD) machine he had been operating underground ran over him.

# MNM Fatal Accident Summary

On November 3, 2018, a 44-year old shift supervisor with 3 years of experience was killed when a loaded Caterpillar 785B haul truck ran over her pickup truck at the crusher site.



# Coal 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Fatalities

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# Coal Fatal Accident Summaries

On October 17, 2018, a 33-year-old auger helper with 3 days of surface mining experience received fatal injuries during auger mining activities. The victim was attempting to move a section of auger steel by using the onboard crane when he was struck in the chest.



On December 11, 2018, a 38-year-old miner with 14 years of experience was fatally injured at a surface coal mine. The miner was operating a front-end loader to move shot rock near the toe of a 63-foot highwall. A large portion of the highwall collapsed onto the front-end loader, crushing the operator cab and fatally injuring the miner.

# Coal Fatal Accident Summaries

On December 29, 2018, a 25-year old dredge operator, with 21 weeks of experience, was fatally injured at a coal mine. The victim drowned when the dredge he was operating sank.



On November 29, 2018, a mechanic with 29 years of mining experience was severely injured when hydraulic pressure propelled a piece of metal out of a hydraulic fitting that he was examining, and the metal penetrated his head. The miner died on December 30, 2018, as a result of his injuries.

# Coal Fatal Accident Summary

On December 20, 2018, a mobile bridge carrier (MBC) operator, with 5 years and 21 weeks of mining experience, was fatally injured while operating his detached, remote-controlled machine during the mining process. As the continuous haulage system pulled forward in preparation of mining, he was crushed between the coal rib and the No. 2 mobile bridge conveyor.



# Mobile Bridge Best Practices

- Stay out of red zones
- Always communicate before tramming
- Know how your machine operates, including start/stop sequences
- Install audible and visible alarms to warn miners before tramming
- Install and maintain position switches



# Powered Haulage Safety Initiative: Large Mobile Equipment

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# Safety outreach for haul trucks, other large vehicles

- Starting February, inspectors will discuss best practices and distribute materials, including stickers, during regular inspections
- Part of Powered Haulage Safety Initiative – targeting source of 50% of mining fatalities

## Best practices include:

- Traffic control
- Awareness of blind spots
- Clear communication
- Flashing lights, other visibility devices for small vehicles
- Collision warning or awareness systems



# Questions?

