

STAND DOWN TO SAVE LIVES

July 10, 2025

Conveyor systems are an important method of material haulage at many surface and underground mines. All conveyor systems have inherent dangers while in motion. Some best practices to remember when working around conveyors are:

Conveyors are Faster Than You and Unforgiving

- A typical conveyor belt travels about **300 feet per minute**.
- This means the belt is moving at **five feet per second**.
- So, a moving conveyor belt will draw your tools, loose-fitting clothing, hand, or arm **five feet** into a pinch point before you can react.
- **In less than a second**, a conveyor can grab you, pull you in, and not let go.

Equipment Guards are There for a Purpose

- Keep guards securely in place when conveyors are operating or energized.
- Never reach around or through a guard.

Entanglement Incidents are Life Altering and Frequently Fatal – Follow These Rules

- Never perform work on a moving conveyor belt. Don't let others do so.
- Follow proper Lock-Out, Tag-Out (LOTO) procedures. If you don't know what they are, **ask your supervisor or safety manager!**
- Ensure that conveyor power is disconnected **before** performing maintenance or repairs.
- Never clean or otherwise contact idlers, head, tail, bend or take-up pulleys during conveyor operation.
- Understand that shoveling material onto a moving belt presents a risk.
 - » Establish a safe shovel point;
 - » Always shovel in the direction of belt travel;
 - » Use shovels without a "D" grip (plain, smooth handle); and
 - » Erect a barrier that prevents the shovel from reaching the edge of the belt, but allows material to pass over or through.
- Never cross under or over a conveyor unless at a designated and protected point.
- Do not touch, climb, walk or ride on a moving conveyor belt.
- Keep tools, clothing, body parts, and long hair away from moving conveyor belts.
- Know the location of emergency shut-off devices for conveyors and how to use them.
- Test emergency shut-off devices frequently.

Report accidents and hazardous conditions: 1-800-746-1553



www.msha.gov/stand-down