

# *MSHA Hazard Alert*



Two miners were killed in the metal and nonmetal sector in January, 2013. One miner died when a large rock fell and struck him while in a manlift taking samples from a highwall. The other miner was killed when caught between moving parts while repairing a leaking hydraulic cylinder on a lime preheater. The mining industry has made great strides in maintaining a safer and healthier work place, but more can be done. Take the time to assess the hazards associated with every task, particularly those not frequently done, and remove or control every hazard. When assessing risk, consider these issues:

**Work Zone** – What are the hazards? Who will be exposed?  
Should access to the area be limited while this activity is occurring?  
Should the area be posted with warning signs or barricaded?

**Physical** - Is mobile or stationary equipment operating in the area?  
Are suspended loads present? Any pressurized equipment, fluid or gas lines?  
Does equipment need to be shut down, locked, blocked or chocked?

**Chemical** - Will chemicals, gases or vapors will be used or liberated?  
Are the chemicals corrosive, toxic or a fire or health hazard?  
Have the MSDS been reviewed before the job begins and proper precautions taken?

**Equipment** - Is appropriate PPE available and in use?  
Are the necessary tools available and appropriately maintained?

**Training** - Is special knowledge or additional training or supervision needed?  
Do miners have the training to recognize and address the potential hazards of this task?

**Assessing the risk and addressing the hazards prevents accidents**

**Have a Safe 2013**

