

D-2 COAL Serious Accident

On March 4, 2016 a serious accident occurred when the operator of a Hitachi 1800 Excavator was removing overburden and the rear of the machine ignited. The fire prevented the operator from escaping by using the lower walkways of the machine. While attempting to climb down the front of the operator's cab, the victim fell fourteen feet to the ground, receiving severe injuries.



Best Practices

- Train employees adequately on the equipment they operate, safe work procedures, hazard recognition, and hazard avoidance.
- Train employees adequately on the method of emergency egress for each piece of equipment before they begin operation.
- Maintain equipment in a safe operating condition and do not allow combustible materials to accumulate on equipment.
- Always check the firefighting equipment on machinery before operating.
- Conduct a risk assessment of the work area prior to beginning any task and identify all possible hazards. Use the SLAM; Stop, Look, Analyze, and Manage approach for work place safety.