



BERM MAINTENANCE AT DUMP POINTS- Two recent accidents illustrate the importance of the establishment and maintenance of berms at dump locations. The first, a Caterpillar 775 haulage truck over traveled the dump point and rolled approximately 130 ft. before coming to a rest in an upright position at the base of the dump. The second, a Caterpillar 777 haulage truck rolled over when the driver, while backing parallel to the berm, drove over the berm, causing the truck to roll over and land upside down. In both instances, the investigation determined that the berms were inadequate for the conditions and equipment operated.



Best Practices

- Equipment operators should always verify that adequate berms are in place prior to entering a dump area and determine that it is safe for operation.
- The mine operator should verify and record that berms are adequate and the area is safe, prior to activating a new dump location.
- The mine operator should develop dump point procedures that include frequent inspection by supervisory personnel, procedures to follow if an adequate berm is not present (short dumping), readily available equipment to maintain the berm, and a spotter/observer assigned during active use.
- Allow sufficient area for large heavy equipment to maneuver and, whenever possible, back perpendicular to the dump point.