# MNM Fatal 2004-07

- Machinery Accident
- March 24, 2004 (Oklahoma)
- Crushed Stone Operation
- Driller
- 41 years old
- 22 years experience

# Overview

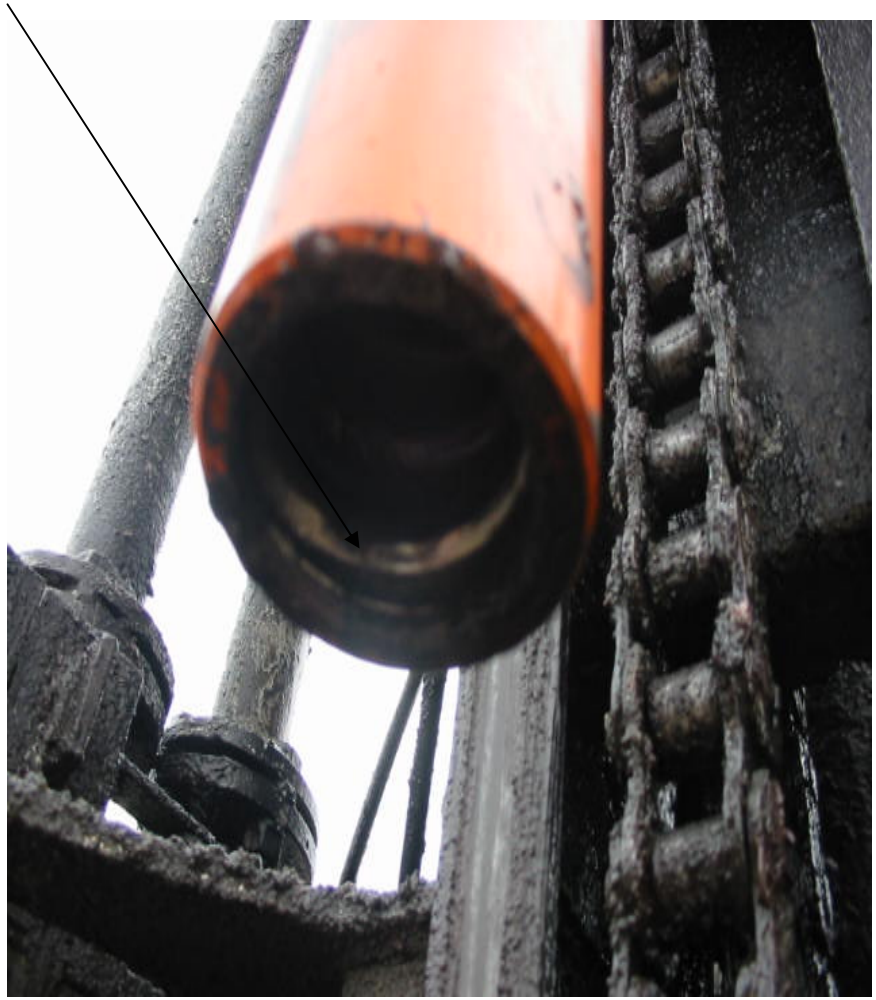
- The victim was using a track mounted drill to drill blast holes.
- He attempted to manually thread a new drill steel.
- The mast was vertical and the drill head was rotating.
- The rotating steel entangled him.

The drill operator was found lying next to the drill mast near the drill steel.

A 14-foot starter steel and a 12-foot steel were found in the prior hole drilled. One used steel was found in the magazine. The victim was manually feeding a steel into the collar with the mast vertical and the drill head rotating when it cross threaded and entangled him.

**636 Furukawa HCR 12 ED Rock Drill**

**Note the abrasion marks (indicating possible cross threading) on the top of drill steel and in the collar.**



# Why Did Accident Occur?

- Drill steel being added did not come from the storage magazine on the drill.
- Victim physically placed the drill steel on the rotating striker bar.
- Drill mats was in the vertical drilling position.
- Drill not turned off.
- Victim did not follow procedures. Two persons required to place steel in magazine with drill turned off and in lowered horizontal position.
- Victim's clothing became entangled in the drill steel.

**Drill mast in lowered horizontal position for correct way to manually place steel on collar and striker.**

# Causal Factor

- Drill operator did not follow the drill manufacturer’s procedures for adding drill steels.

# Best Practices

- Train all personnel to help them recognize and understand procedures to safely perform tasks before beginning any work.
- Ensure that personnel follow the manufacturer's procedures when adding drill steels.
- Never manually thread drill steels when the drill head is rotating.
- Do not wear loose fitting clothing when working around drilling machinery.
- Monitor personnel routinely to determine that procedures are followed.