

# MNMM Fatal 2005-23

- Powered Haulage
- September 9, 2005 (Arizona)
- Pumice Operation
- Equipment Operator
- 26 years old
- 5 years mining experience

# Overview

The victim was fatally injured when the scraper he was operating, descended a grade of an established roadway, veered off the roadway, and traveled over rough terrain. The victim, who was not wearing his seatbelt, was ejected from the cab of the scraper.



# Causal Factors

- Causal Factor: Management policies, standards, and controls were inadequate and failed to implement corrective actions in a timely manner. Repairs had not been made to the braking systems on the scraper before it was placed into service.
- Causal Factor: Management policies failed to ensure that mobile equipment operators recognize the hazards associated with operating mobile equipment without a functional braking system.
- Causal Factor: Management did not ensure that mobile equipment operators were wearing seatbelts when operating mobile equipment.
- Causal Factor: Standards, policies, and controls were inadequate. Management failed to implement a procedure to recognize alcohol use on mine property.

# Best Practices

- Conduct thorough pre-operational checks on all self-propelled mobile equipment and promptly correct any defects that may affect safety prior to using the equipment.
- Maintain service brakes to stop and hold mobile equipment prior to operating it.
- Always wear a seat belt when operating self-propelled mobile equipment.