



**Fatality #5 - March 14, 2005**  
**Victim Died March 24, 2005**  
**Machinery - NJ - Sand & Gravel**  
**South State Inc. - South State Inc, Dredge & Plant**

**METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY** - On March 14, 2005, a 66-year-old plant operator with two years mining experience was injured when a work boat he and another co-worker were on capsized. A crane and the boat were being used in an attempt to retrieve a dredge anchor from the bottom of a dredge pond. The crane and the boat were simultaneously hooked to the anchor line. The crane operator's view of the boat was obstructed and there were no communications established between the crews. Because there was too much slack in the cable connection to the crane, the crane backed away from the shore, capsizing the boat. Two co-workers rescued the two employees from the cold water and administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation to revive the victim. He was hospitalized and died on March 24, 2005. None of the employees were wearing life jackets that were available on the boat.



### **Best Practices**

- Ensure that a life jacket is worn where there is a danger of falling into the water.
- Establish and maintain positive two-way communications between crews, including using a spotter if necessary, when performing tasks that must be coordinated.
- Conduct a risk analysis before starting the task to ensure that all hazards are evaluated and eliminated.

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> fatality reported in calendar year 2005 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 2004, there were 7 fatalities reported in these industries. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> fatality classified as machinery in 2005. There were three machinery fatalities in the same period in 2004.