

MNMM Fatal 2006-05

- Powered Haulage
- April 4, 2006 (Michigan)
- Sand & Gravel Operation
- Plant Operator
- 23 years old
- 4 weeks mining experience

Overview

The victim was fatally injured when he became entangled in a conveyor belt tail pulley at the portable crushing plant. He had entered the area under the crusher from the back end and traveled to the back side of the pulley. The accident occurred because management failed to establish procedures to ensure that employees could safely remove spillage near moving conveyors. The conveyor was not de-energized and blocked against motion prior to persons entering the area. The victim failed to recognize the hazard of performing work near moving machine parts.



Root Cause

Operating procedures and controls were inadequate and failed to ensure that persons could safely remove spillage around moving conveyor belts.

Best Practices

- Establish policies that ensure employees are trained on required procedures to safely remove spillage near moving conveyor belts.
- Before assigning miners to clean up spillage, have them identify hazards and demonstrate how they would safely complete the tasks.

Best Practices

- Stop, Look, Analyze, Manage (SLAM)
- Ensure that conveyor belts are de-energized and blocked against motion before positioning yourself near the drive, head, tail, and take-up pulleys.