

# MNMM Fatal 2007-14

- Powered Haulage Accident
- June 19, 2007 (Nevada)
- Gold Operation
- Underground miner
- 30 years old
- 4½ years experience

# Overview

The victim was fatally injured on June 19, 2007, while operating a load-haul-dump (LHD) over a backfilled stope. The LHD fell through the floor into a void that had developed due to subsidence in the backfill. The victim was recovered on July 2, 2007.



# Root Cause

Management policies and procedures failed to ensure that the combination of mining methods and ground control measures employed were adequate to protect persons and safely support equipment. Controls were not in place to ensure the quality of the procedures and materials used in the backfill process, permitting voids to be created in the backfill. The inadequate backfill was used for ground support and travelways, creating hazards to persons working or traveling in these areas. There were no procedures to report voids found in the backfill material.

# Best Practices

- Supervisors or other designated persons should examine underground haulageways and travelways for changing ground conditions.
- Design and utilize mining methods that will maintain stability and control the ground in places where persons work or travel.