

MNMM Fatal 2011-05

- Fall of Roof Accident
- April 25, 2011 (Ohio)
- Underground Stone Operation
- Driller
- 31 years old
- 6 weeks of experience

Overview

The victim was killed when a slab of roof struck him. He was walking through 34 cross cut when a slab of rock approximately 6 feet long by 5 feet wide by 12 inches thick fell.

The accident occurred because management policies, procedures, and controls were inadequate. The area where the rock fell was not examined and tested by an experienced person designated by the mine operator prior to work commencing.

Additionally, procedures to ensure that persons scale loose ground and drill and bolt laminated roof areas were not followed.



Root Causes

Root Cause: Management policies, procedures, and controls failed to ensure that experienced persons examined and tested for loose ground in areas prior to work commencing.

Corrective Action: Management amended the written work procedures to ensure that experienced persons examine and test for loose ground in areas prior to work commencing.

Root Cause: Management policies, procedures, and controls failed to assure that loose ground was scaled down or supported in areas where work and travel was being performed.

Corrective Action: The mine operator has re-trained all miners to assure that ground conditions are taken down or supported before travel or work is performed.

Best Practices

- Train persons to identify work place hazards and take action to correct them.
- Design, install, and maintain a support system to control the ground in places where persons work or travel.
- Examine and test ground conditions in areas where work is to be performed prior to work commencing and as ground conditions warrant during the shift.
- When ground conditions create a hazard to persons, install additional ground support before other work is permitted in the affected area.
- Be alert to any change of ground conditions.