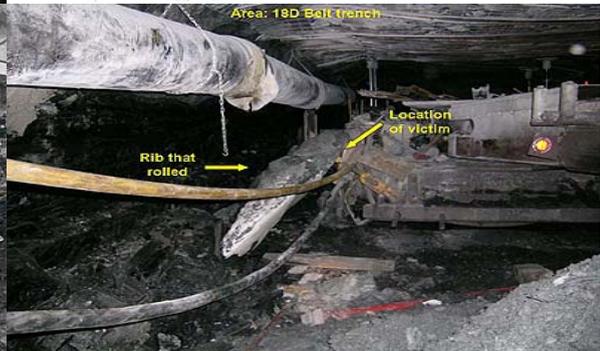
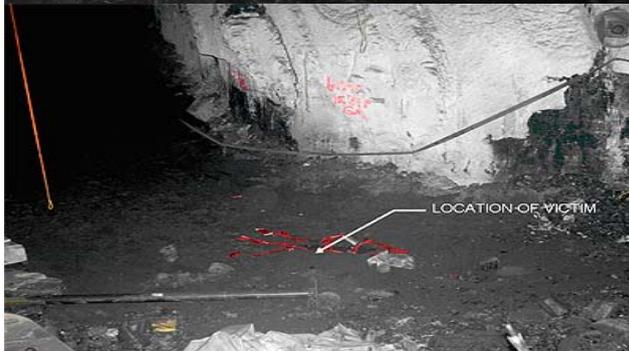
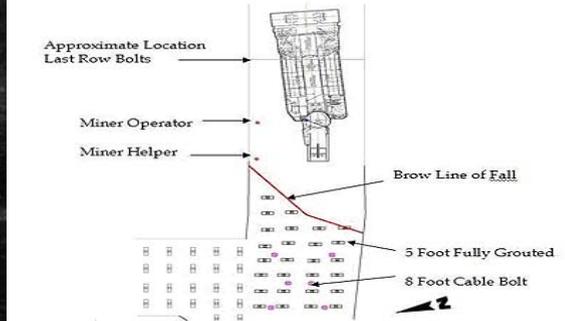


ROOF AND RIBS – STAY ALERT!

ROOF and RIB ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES CLAIM 5 LIVES YTD IN 2010



1. A continuous miner operator was struck and killed when by a coal rib while using a remote control continuous mining machine to clean a previously bolted crosscut.
2. A continuous miner operator and a helper were killed when the mine roof collapsed while they were loading rock out of a completed extended cut.
3. A miner was installing a rib support when a section of rib fell and knocked over a roof jack that struck and killed him.
4. A left side integral roof bolter operator on a continuous mining machine was struck and killed by a portion of rib that fell and pinned him against the machine.

Best Practices

- Ensure everyone is trained in hazards associated with roof and rib failures.
- Conduct thorough pre-shift examinations and on-shift examinations before beginning work or travel and frequently thereafter as conditions warrant.
- Take extra precautions when working between equipment and ribs.
- Adequately support, control, or scale roof and ribs before beginning work and scale from a safe location.
- Be alert to changing conditions which may affect roof and rib conditions.
- Assure that the roof control plan is suitable for prevailing conditions.
- Mine operators should have all work areas examined for conditions that may harm miners.