

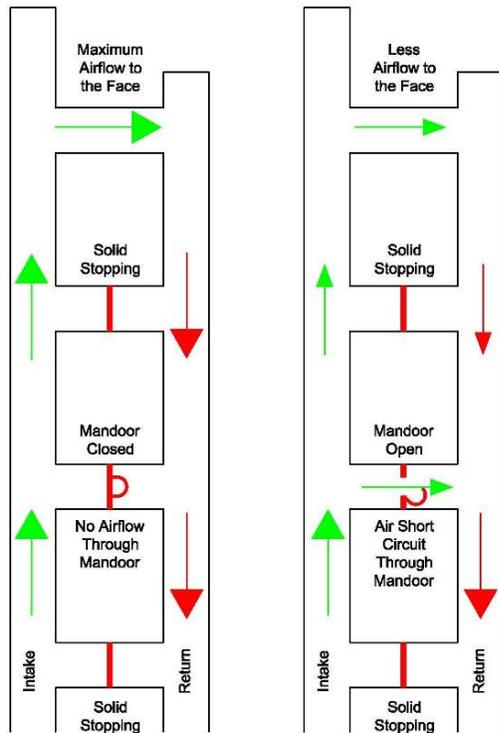


U. S. Department of Labor MSHA's Accident Prevention Safety Idea

Mandoors in Coal Mines



Doors or mandoors are placed in the stoppings at certain intervals to allow miners access to other areas of the mine.



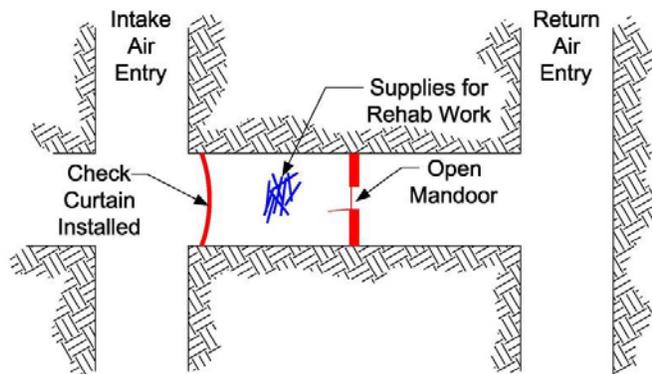
The effect of an open mandoor on face ventilation

To minimize short-circuiting air through open mandoors:

- Stockpile the supplies near the mandoor;
- Install a check curtain or inflatable in the cross-cut to form a temporary airlock;
- Open the mandoor and secure it from slamming shut;
- Move the supplies through the mandoor;
- CLOSE the mandoor and remove the check curtain.

Delivering materials through a mandoor should be done during non-production times as much as possible. If the mandoor location becomes a material delivery and distribution site used on a continuing basis, the check curtain should be replaced by another stopping with a door to form a permanent airlock.

Sometimes it is necessary to deliver materials for roof support in bad top, damaged pump discharge lines, etc. to areas of the mine inaccessible to mobile equipment. Many times when this happens, the materials are carried through mandoors. This can adversely diminish the quantity of fresh air needed in other areas of the mine because the air short-circuits through the open mandoor. It is important to maintain compliance with the mine's ventilation plan by never leaving the mandoor open any longer than necessary to travel to the other side. All persons working in areas that may be affected should be informed prior to delivering the materials.



If you have a tip you would like to pass on, you can e-mail it
to zz-MSHA-MinersTips@dol.gov
If your tip is selected, you will receive credit in this space.

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