

MNMM Fatal 2004-19

- Powered Haulage
- September 28, 2004 (Tennessee)
- Sand & Gravel Operation
- Plant Operator
- 64 years old
- 17 years experience

Overview

- The victim was using a water hose to clean spillage under a conveyor. Apparently, a large rock fell from a conveyor located overhead and struck him, resulting in fatal injuries.



Rock fell from conveyor.

Why Did Accident Occur?

- The accident was caused by the failure to recognize that large rocks loading onto the inclined conveyor belt created hazards for persons traveling or working under the belt.

Why Did Accident Occur?

- Guards, shields, or other protective devices were not provided to protect persons from falling material while they traveled or worked in this area. Failure to replace a divider bar in the grizzly on the feed hopper allowed large rocks to pass through and contributed to the accident.

Divider bar missing in
grizzly screen.



Causal Factors

- Mine management failed to recognize that large rocks loading onto the steep inclined conveyor belt created hazards for persons traveling or working under the belt.

Causal Factors

- Policies and controls were inadequate and failed to identify the missing metal bar on the grizzly for repair. The grizzly at the feed hopper was not included in the daily workplace examination. The missing bar in the grizzly enabled large rocks to pass onto the inclined conveyor belt.

Best Practices

- Conduct a Risk Assessment evaluating all tasks and identifying potential hazards before performing work.
- Never walk under or perform work near moving conveyor belts where there is a danger of being stuck from falling material.
- Ensure that guards, shields, or other devices are installed to protect persons from hazards of falling material near conveyors, screens, or crushers.