



Fatality #8 – April 22, 2004
Powered Haulage - Underground - AL
Jim Walter Resources, Inc. - No. 7 Mine

COAL MINE FATALITY – On Thursday, April 22, 2004, a 57-year old general inside laborer with 30 years mining experience was fatally injured when he came in contact with an underground belt conveyor system. The victim had been assigned belt cleaning duties and during the performance of these duties came in contact with the conveyor belt. After being carried approximately 9,000 feet by the conveyor system, the victim was found on the surface rock pile by the bulldozer operator.



Best Practices

- Never remove coal spilled beneath unguarded conveyor belt drives and tailpieces while the conveyor is in motion.
- Stay out of areas along a moving conveyor belt where clearance is restricted.
- Cross moving conveyor belts only where suitable crossing facilities are provided.
- Ensure all guards are adequate and securely in place.
- Ensure that power is off and cannot be accidentally restored to machinery before any work is performed on such equipment.
- Ensure that machinery is blocked against motion before performing maintenance or repairs.
- Consider providing a visible or audible system to warn persons that the conveyor will be started.

This is the eighth fatality reported in calendar year 2004 in the coal mining industry. As of this date in 2003, there were twelve fatalities reported in coal mining. This is the third fatality classified as Powered Haulage in 2004. There were four Powered Haulage fatalities at this time in 2003.