

MNMM Fatal 2006-12

- Fall of Person
- May 22, 2006 (California)
- Crushed Stone Operation
- Mechanic Trainee
- 42 years old
- 15 years mining experience

Overview

The victim was injured when he climbed onto an elevated pallet of screens and fell about 17 feet to the ground. He and two other mechanics were preparing to off load screens at the Diester screen work platform. A forklift had been used to lift a pallet of screens to the level of the work platform. The victim was unable to slide the top screen off the pallet and climbed over the double handrail onto the pallet. The victim's weight caused the pallet to tip and he and the screens fell to the ground. The victim died on May 25, 2006, as a result of the fall.



Root Cause

- Policies and controls were inadequate and management failed to ensure the use of fall protection when persons were positioned where there was a danger of falling. There was no discussion between management and the miners to identify possible hazards and establish safe procedures to unload the screens at the elevated work location.

Best Practices

- Stop, Look, Analyze, and Manage, SLAM each task to identify all potential hazards. Initiate action to protect yourself when performing every task.
- Train all miners to recognize hazards from falling and ensure that safe access and safe work procedures are discussed and established.
- Always utilize the appropriate equipment to hoist loads and ensure that appropriate fall protection is worn where hazards from falling exist.