



Fatality #4 - March 23, 2007
Machinery - Ohio - Sandstone (C&B)
Oglebay Norton Industrial Sands, Inc. - Glass Rock Plant

METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY - On March 23, 2007, a 44 year-old tramway maintenance man, with 26 years mining experience, was fatally injured at an industrial sand operation. A maintenance crew was adjusting a cable for an aerial tram. A tension jack was being used to tighten the cable when the cable anchorage point failed. The victim was in a man basket, looking down the cable line, and was struck by the tension jack or cable. A co-worker was also injured.



Best Practices

- Identify inspection criteria and maintenance procedures for carriers (including loading and unloading mechanisms), ropes and supports, and brakes according to the recommendations of the manufacturer.
- Identify potential hazards for each step of the task, establish written procedures, and train persons conducting the task of aligning cable lines.
- Ensure that competent persons address hazards associated with and the uncontrolled release of stored energy.
- Ensure that persons are not positioned within the recoil zone of tensioned cables.
- When using hydraulic systems, ensure that the maximum allowed pressures and the settings of the relief valves are established by a qualified individual.
- Before any work is performed on a tension linkage assemblage, ensure that all connection points of the linkage assemblies have been examined for signs of excessive deformation, signs of distress such as cracking, distortion of holes, warping, out of plan lateral movements.

This is the 4th fatality reported in calendar year 2007 in the metal and nonmetal mining industries. As of this date in 2006, there were three fatalities reported in these industries. This is the 1st Machinery fatality in 2007. There were two Machinery fatalities in the same period in 2006.