

On Monday, June 6, 2011 a Caterpillar 789B Hauler caught fire while traveling from an overburden dump area to the pit. When the driver noticed the fire, he immediately set the parking brake and rapidly exited the cab. The front ladders used to exit the hauler were blocked by the fire, preventing access by the driver. He crawled under the driver's side handrails and jumped from the driver's side steering tire. When the firefighters arrived and attempted to extinguish the fire, the left front tire exploded and damaged the front windows in the fire truck.



Best Practices

- Conduct thorough pre-operational checks
- Conduct routine inspections of all oil lines and hydraulic hoses
- Ensure all employees are trained in potential hazards of an equipment fire
- Evacuate and secure the area for at least 1,000 feet in all directions around an equipment fire, especially when the tires are burning
- Do not attempt to fight an equipment fire when the tires have started burning

Ray McKinney
District Manager

