
MSHA Close Accident Alert

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) publishes incident reports from mine sites throughout the United States. These reports are aimed at increasing awareness of mine-site hazards as well as outlining best safety practices. Following are two recent incidents showcasing common potential hazards at mine sites.

Falling Debris

On April 11, 2018, a miner received serious injuries when he was struck by a piece of metal floor grating. A construction supervisor stepped on a section of metal floor grating that was unsupported and unsecured on one edge. The grating, which weighed over 100 lbs., tilted, fell through the opening it was supposed to cover, and struck the miner 25 feet below.

Best Practices

- Ensure that floor gratings and covers installed over travelways are substantially constructed, fully supported, secured in place, inspected regularly and properly maintained.
- Inspect metal structures located in wet or corrosive environments frequently to identify deterioration that may present a safety hazard.
- Evaluate the integrity and support strength of any cover that was not designed as a walkway prior to walking on it. Provide and maintain a safe means of access to all working places.
- Restrict access to covers over openings not specifically designed to serve as travelways. Provide readily visible warning signs that clearly display the nature of the hazard and any protective action required.
- If the travel surface integrity is unknown or cannot be readily confirmed, ALWAYS wear fall protection.

Parking Safety

On July 2, 2018, a miner in the process of dumping the contents in the vacuum truck was seriously injured when he tripped while chasing the vacuum truck that began to roll away.

30 CFR § 56.14207 - Parking procedures for unattended equipment.

Mobile equipment shall not be left unattended unless the controls are placed in the park position and the parking brake, if provided, is set. When parked on a grade, the wheels or tracks of mobile equipment shall be either chocked or turned into a bank.

Maintain equipment braking systems in good repair and adjustment and set the parking brake (if provided) in order to prevent unexpected movement. This standard applies to off-road and on-road mobile equipment used on mine property, including vans, SUVs, and pick-up trucks. All mobile equipment used on the mine site must comply with this standard.

What This Means for Counties

Maintaining a safe worksite is the responsibility of all employees. Proper training and safety precautions are necessary to prevent the loss of time, equipment, and lives. CTSI offers a range of certified MSHA safety classes to help you maintain a safe jobsite and workforce. Please contact CTSI Loss Prevention at 303 861 0507 to schedule a class. [ctsi](http://www.ctsi.org)