



Fatality #19 – September 26, 2004
Powered Haulage - Underground - VA
Consolidation Coal Co. - Buchanan #1 Mine

Coal Mine Fatality - On Sunday, September 26, 2004, a 46-year old utility man with 12 years mining experience was fatally injured when he contacted a moving underground belt conveyor system. The victim was attempting to install a belt scraper at a tailpiece while the belt was in motion. A chain attached to the scraper was caught by the belt, dragging it and the victim into the tailpiece roller.



Best Practices

- Never perform work on a moving conveyor belt!
- Always de-energize equipment and use lockout and tag-out procedures! Ensure that power is off with a visual disconnect before any work is performed on such equipment.
- "Think before you act" - Always identify safety hazards before beginning any work task.
- Ensure that machinery is blocked against motion before performing maintenance or repairs.
- Follow company safety procedures.
- Stay out of areas along a moving conveyor belt where clearance is restricted.
-

This is the 19th fatality reported in calendar year 2004 in the coal mining industry. As of the accident date in 2003, there were 27 fatalities reported in the coal mining industry. This is the 7th fatality classified as Powered Haulage in 2004. At this time in 2003, there were 9 fatalities classified as Powered Haulage.