



Fatality #18 - December 6, 2005
Powered Haulage - Surface - PA
Reading Anthracite Company - Wadesville P-33

COAL MINE FATALITY - On Tuesday, December 6, 2005 at 2:00 p.m., a 64-year truck driver with 35 years experience was hauling a load of stemming material to a drill bench at a surface anthracite mine. While descending into the pit, the truck traveled through a berm, over an embankment, and came to rest on the driver's side. The driver was not wearing a seat belt and received fatal injuries.



Best Practices

- Ensure traffic rules, signals, and warning signs are posted and obeyed.
- Operate mobile equipment so that you maintain control.
- Always wear a seat belt when operating mobile equipment.
- Ensure adequate pre-operational examinations are conducted on all mobile equipment and defects affecting safety are promptly corrected prior to placing it in service.
- Before beginning a task, miners should discuss the work procedures, identify all possible hazards, and ensure steps are taken to safely perform the task.
- Exercise caution and operate mobile equipment in the appropriate gear at speeds consistent with conditions and grades of the roadway.
- Always obtain Operator's Manuals and Service Manuals for all mobile equipment and ensure their use by mechanics and operators.

This is the 18th fatality reported in calendar year 2005 in the coal mining industry. As of this date in 2004, there were 26 fatalities reported in coal mining. This is the eighth fatality classified as powered haulage in 2005. There were nine fatalities in this category at this time in 2004.