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BLASTING SAFETY ALERT

6 Fatalities from blasting accidents 2010-2013



The victim initiated a blast and was struck by fly rock.



Two miners entered this mine and were killed by carbon monoxide.



Rock from a blast struck the front-end loader and covered it.



Victim was struck by blast debris that traveled through a diamond core hole.



The victim was hit by debris after blast was initiated.

Best Practices

- Conduct effective workplace examinations. Identify all hazards and take action to correct them.
- Ensure all active working areas are ventilated prior to allowing miners to work in those areas.
- Monitor air quality and gasses as frequently as necessary to determine the adequacy of control measures.
- Use properly maintained and calibrated gas detection instruments that provide audible and visual alarms when concentrations are outside of safe limits.
- Ensure all miners are trained to identify all potential hazards and emergency procedures, including evacuation procedures.
- Dispose of damaged or deteriorated explosive material in a safe manner and in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer.
- Guard or barricade all access routes to the blasting area to prevent the passage of persons or vehicles.
- Before firing a blast, give ample warning to allow all persons to be evacuated.
- Clear and remove all persons from the blast area unless suitable blasting shelters are provided to protect persons from fly rock.

Following Proper Procedures Can Save a Life