

MDG 28 – Stockpile Incidents

Incident Information	Agent of fatality	Events	Recommendations
OPEN CUT MINES			
2/3/2004 United States Coal Open-Cut	Fall of Roof/Sides/Highwall	While performing maintenance on an underground reclaim feeder a pile of coal collapsed, covering the victim.	Initiate stockpile area maintenance plan, workers to be trained in hazard identification and do not allow unstable coal bank storage.
11/04/1999 United States Coal Open-Cut	Asphyxiation	A bulldozer operator was fatally injured when his dozer fell into a void in a surge pile. After failed attempts to contact operator, a foreman observed dozer buried in coal. Coal broke both back and front windows, inundating operator.	Provide training to all that work on or near surge piles. Indicate location of feeder points with an overhead marker. Use equipment with enclosed ROPS. Establish a communication system throughout the mine. Ensure employees are trained in work safe procedures.
22/09/1998 United States Non-Coal Open-Cut	Asphyxiation	A 43-year old bull dozer operator with 22 years mining experience was fatally injured at a sand and gravel operation. The victim was operating a dozer on top of a surge pile. He got off the dozer and fell or was drawn into the reclaim tunnel draw point.	Persons should not approach surge piles or draw points until the feed and discharge power disconnect switches are locked in the off position and safe access has been established.
14/03/1998 United States Non-Coal Open-Cut	Asphyxiation	A welder was fatally injured changing a bearing on the head pulley of the sand stacker conveyor. Sand was being drawn from stockpile onto a conveyor belt. He climbed from conveyor walkway to stockpile and was drawn by collapsing pile to feed chute below.	Work to be performed on secure work platforms with handrails. A safety belt and lanyard be used when workers access the top of surge piles. Draw-off conveyors to be isolated prior to accessing the top of surge piles.
6/02/1998 United States Non-Coal Open-Cut	Asphyxiation	A site visitor drove a small dump truck into the plant yard for a load of sand. Loader operator had loaded truck earlier in day but was not available for 2nd load. The victim started to load by hand when stockpile sloughed burying him	Stockpiles should be trimmed to eliminate steep faces. Outside truck drivers should remain in the their trucks while on mine property
20/12/1990 Australia New South Wales Coal Open-Cut	Asphyxiation	The deceased was operating a D10N dozer on a stockpile when it entered a conical hole in the coal. It came to rest at a 75 degree angle buried in coal.	
27/09/1990 Australia Western Australia Non-Coal Open-Cut	Fall from Heights	Reversed truck to edge of ROM stockpile. Stockpile was undercut and gave way causing truck to fall 8m and land upside down.	
5/01/1989 Australia Queensland Non-Coal Open-Cut	Other	Foreman became trapped in millhole at base of an ore stockpile.	

1982 Australia Tasmania Non-Coal Open-Cut	Fall of Roof/Sides/Highwall	Was crushed by a stockpile material fall.	
1982 United Kingdom Coal Open-Cut	Unintended operation of Equipment	When the machine was operating on the stockpile, it drove over a 3m face and caught fire as it overturned	
1982 United Kingdom Coal Open-Cut	Unintended operation of Equipment	Stockpile was being fed by a vibratory feeder, and due to the excess of material, the dozer was operating at the top of the stockpile, instead of the bottom. It fell through a depression in material and the dozer was engulfed.	
30/01/1974 United States Non-Coal Open-Cut	Gas Ignition Explosion	A surface refuse-pile slide and explosion. There was a heavy cloud of flame and dust as well as the slide action.	
1967 Australia New South Wales Non-Coal Open-Cut	Other	Died of asphyxia when he was buried in a stockpile of clinker	
3/06/1954 Australia Queensland Non-Coal Open-Cut	Other	Fatally injured as a result of the collapse of a stack of bagged concentrates.	
SURFACE OF UNDERGROUND MINES			
22/11/1998 United States Coal Underground	Asphyxiation	A dozer operator was pushing coal away from coal stacker when coal above No. 1 feeder collapsed, causing dozer to fall into a void above feeder. Coal collapsed on top of dozer fatally injuring the operator.	All draw-off feeders to be constructed to prevent gravity feed. A signal system which identifies active feeders be used. Work areas to be sufficiently illuminated. Visual examinations of stockpile should be conducted regularly.
3/09/1987 Australia New South Wales Coal Underground	Asphyxiation	He was covered by a slide of wet coal from a stockpile while loading it onto his truck and was asphyxiated.	