



- ***“Rules to Live By”*** is an initiative to improve the prevention of fatalities in mining. Enhanced enforcement focused on 24 frequently cited standards (11 in coal mining and 13 in metal/nonmetal mining) that cause or contribute to fatal accidents in the mining industry in 9 accident categories.

From 2000 - 2008, 589 miners lost their lives, in mining accidents. MSHA analyzed these fatal accidents to identify conditions and practices that contributed to the 589 deaths, safety standards violated, root causes, and abatement practices.

The 13 standards in M/NM mining fell into 9 different accident categories:

Falls from Elevation

Falls of Roof and Rib

Operating Mobile Equipment (Surface)

Operating Mobile Equipment (Underground)


Maintenance

Lock and Tag Out


Struck by Mobile Equipment (Surface)

Struck by Mobile Equipment (Underground)

Blocking Against Motion



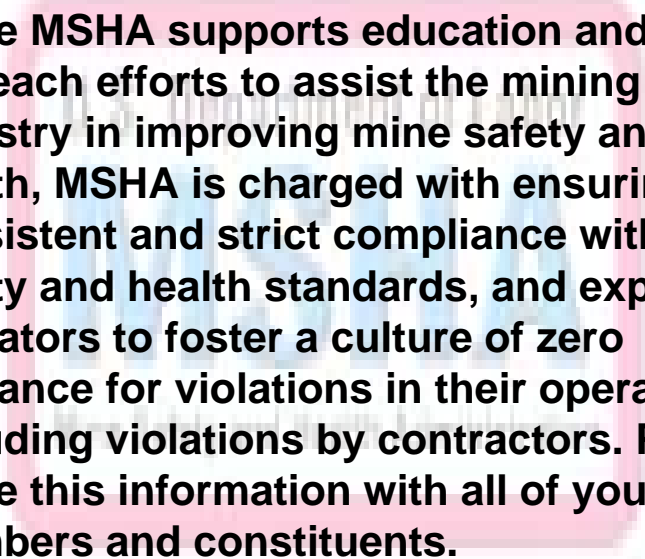
Many miners over the years have lost their lives in these types of accidents. All of us must focus on why these accidents happen and continue to work on how to stop them from happening.



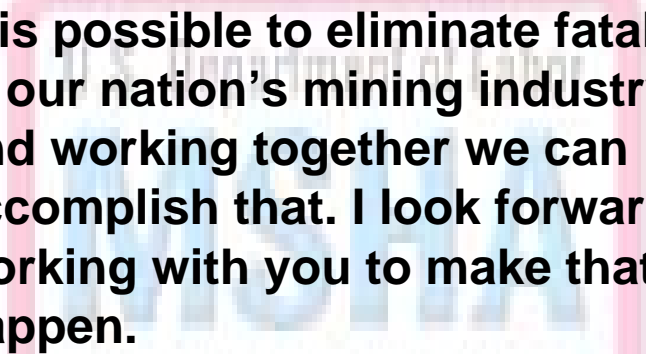
MSHA will provide operators program and resource information, such as engineering suggestions, and reach out to miners and miners' representatives during inspections to ensure that mine operators and miners have information to address and eliminate workplace hazards.



**Compliance with safety
and health standards is
the responsibility of
mine operators.**



While MSHA supports education and outreach efforts to assist the mining industry in improving mine safety and health, MSHA is charged with ensuring consistent and strict compliance with safety and health standards, and expects operators to foster a culture of zero tolerance for violations in their operations, including violations by contractors. Please share this information with all of your members and constituents.



It is possible to eliminate fatalities in our nation's mining industry, and working together we can accomplish that. I look forward to working with you to make that happen.



Between January 1, 2000, and December 31, 2008, there were 289 fatalities in Metal/Nonmetal mines in the United States. Of these fatalities, 126 (44%) are cited under 13 standards.

We will review these 13 standards.

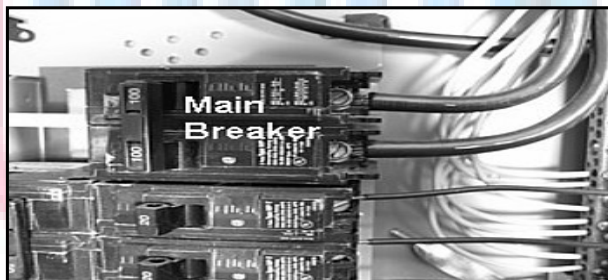
§ 56.9101 - Operating speeds and control of equipment

Equipment operator shall maintain control of equipment while in motion. Operating speeds shall be consistent with the conditions.



§ 56.12017 - Work on power circuits

Power circuits shall de-energized before working on circuits. Switches shall be locked out or other measures taken to prevent power circuits from being energized without knowledge of individuals working on them.



56.14101(a) - Brake performance

Service brakes not capable of stopping and holding equipment with its typical load on maximum grade it travels.

Parking brakes shall be capable of holding equipment with its typical load on maximum grade it travels.



56.14105 - Procedures during repairs or maintenance of machinery or equipment blocked against hazardous motion during repairs or maintenance, only after the power is OFF.



56.14130(g) - *Seat belts shall be worn by equipment operators*

Failure to wear seatbelts while operating mobile equipment.



14131(a) - *Seat belts shall be provided and worn in haul trucks*

Seat belts shall be maintained in functional condition



56.14205 - Machinery, equipment, and tools used beyond design

Using machinery, equipment, or tools beyond design capacity intended by manufacturer.



56.14207 - Parking procedures for unattended equipment

Mobile equipment shall not be left unattended and controls not placed in park position.

Mobile equipment parked on grade the wheels or tracks shall be chocked or turned into a bank.



56.15005 - Safety belts and lines

Shall be worn when persons work where there is danger of falling.



§ 56.16002(c) - Bins, hoppers, silos, tanks, and surge piles

No Persons shall enter bins, tanks, hoppers or surge piles

Until the supply and discharge of materials have ceased and the supply discharge equipment is locked out.

Persons entering the facility shall wear a safety belt or harness equipped with a lifeline fastened.



56.16009 - Persons shall stay clear of suspended loads

Persons failing to stay clear of suspended loads.



56.20011 - Barricades and warning signs

Barricades or warning signs shall be posted at all approaches where health or safety hazards exist that are not immediately obvious.



57.3360 - Ground support use

The support system shall be designed, installed, and maintained to control the ground in place where persons work or travel



A Note On Negligence

In evaluating negligence, inspectors will consider:

- Degree of danger to the miners
- Agent knowledge
- Length of time condition has existed
- Obviousness or extensiveness of the hazardous condition
- Mine violation history
- Effort or lack of effort to abate

