

A Worker is Pinned Against the Rock Wall When his Tractor is Pushed by a Passing Vehicle

At around 10:40 p.m., a worker was repairing the ventilation doors of a chimney. His tractor, equipped with a mobile basket on the front, was parked at an angle in the entrance. The worker went in between the basket and the rock wall to solder the lower hinges. A maintenance miner driving a scissor lift tried to drive between the tractor and the rock wall. There was not enough space, and the scissor lift struck the tractor, pushing it. The tractor moved suddenly, and the crouching worker was pinned against the wall by the basket. The worker suffered a pelvic fracture.

Serious Accident

Date: February 19, 2015

Category: Underground mine

Activity: Vehicle traffic and work in an obstructed area

Position: Timberman

Causes of the Accident

- The driver of the scissor lift tried to drive through the traffic lane when it was more than 50% obstructed.
- The working area was not set off and no physical obstacle was put up while the traffic lane was partially obstructed.
- The tractor's jacks were not deployed and there were no wheel chocks in place.



Preventative Measures for the Employer

- Draw up a procedure on the obligation to bar traffic lanes using a clear and effective visual signal (e.g., tape, rope, etc.), and the obligation to obtain verbal authorization before driving through a traffic lane that is obstructed.
- Standardize the equipment used to bar traffic lanes and ensure that every vehicle liable to regularly obstruct traffic lanes has this equipment.
- Add the inspection of traffic lanes, traffic lane obstructions and barriers to the "carte de travail."
- Inform the relevant personnel about the procedure and train supervisors on the application of the changes.
- Design new developments in such a way that ventilation doors, main fans and other equipment can be maintained with no risk of collisions with vehicles in main roadways or in traffic lanes.

Additional Information

Other documents

- Workplace Safety North. *Pedestrian/Mobile Equipment Visibility*. Technical Report. 2012. Ontario, Canada.
 - Online at <http://www.workplacesafetynorth.ca/sites/default/files/Pedestrian-Mobile%20Equipment%20Visibility%20-%20Technical%20Report.pdf>.

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