

A driller falls 20 meters through when an access passage way cover tips over under his feet.

A driller and a colleague were moving their 3-wheeled type long-hole drill to start drilling in another section. They were on a landing near the ladder of a covered access passage way. Beforehand, they made sure that the hinges and the cover were all right so as to avoid a fall. The air and water hoses were installed in front of the cover and the ladder so as not to trip over them during the move. Once the operation was completed, the driller went around the drill and stepped on the cover that flipped over. He fell 20 meters (65 feet) to the landing of the sublevel. He suffered serious injuries to his lower limbs as well as a severe laceration to the head.

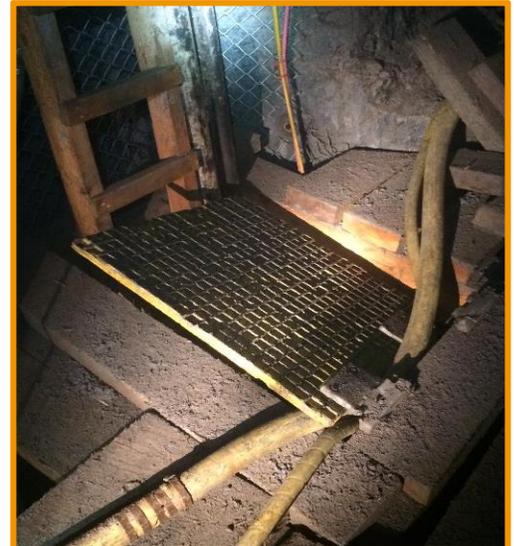
Serious accident

Date: October 7th, 2015

Category: Underground mine

Activity: Moving a drill

Job: Long-hole driller



Causes of the Accident

- The hoses of the moving drill went under the plastic cover and damaged its right hinge.
- The level passage way doesn't meet with plans and specifications and the cover is under sized.

Preventative Measures for the Employer

- Slash material off the foot wall in order to increase the space and limit motorized equipment from having to move on landing.
- Install a tracking system by the engineering department for all construction works.
- Bring all plans and specs up to date.
- Check and replace, throughout the mine, all landing covers that are damaged or do not meet plans and specs.

Additional information

Regulations

- Règlement sur la santé et la sécurité du travail dans les mines (RSSM), **Section III Aménagement des lieux de travail** Art. 51 et Section §4. *Échelles, escaliers et autres moyens d'accès à un lieu de travail*
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Louis-Philippe Simard, Prevention Consultant, at 418-653-1933, ext. 26

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