

Truck driver is pulled out of his truck and dies crushed against the rock wall

A worker got into his truck after eating and attached his lunch box to the passenger's seat with a copper wire. He was driving along the main underground ramp on especially uneven ground. The lunch box fell out of the truck when the driver ran over a rock and a hole. The worker tried to pick it up with his left foot under the safety bar. His boot got pinched between the wall and the truck, and he was pulled outside, where he was fatally crushed.

Fatal Accident

Date: March 25, 2013

Category: Underground mine

Task: Transportation of minerals

Position: Truck driver

Causes of the Accident

- The uneven floor of the underground ramp caused the lunch box to be ejected from the truck.
- The worker was pulled out of the truck when he put his left foot between the truck and the wall of the ramp trying to pick up his lunch box.



Photo source: CSST

Preventative Measures

Maintain and clear the ramps and underground traffic lanes

- Inspect and maintain underground traffic lanes regularly.
- Respect the fill line of truck boxes to prevent minerals from falling out.

Analyze the risks associated with driving a vehicle laterally

- Determine whether it is possible to install a safety belt and/or a closed cab on mining vehicles.
- Ensure that the driver's cab is clean and tidy; do not leave any objects that could move around during the work; use a storage compartment instead.

Analyze the risks associated with machine traffic in the mine

- Ensure that the manoeuvring and traffic areas are stable, sturdy, properly adapted and signed, secured and free of all obstacles.

Additional Information

Regulations

- Regulation respecting occupational health and safety in mines, sections 35 and 190
 - Available online or for purchase at www.publicationsduquebec.gouv.qc.ca

Other documents

- Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail, Direction régionale de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue. *Rapport d'enquête sur accident mortel survenu le 25 mars 2013*. Québec: CSST, 2013 Code: EN-004001
 - Available online at <http://www.centredoc.csst.qc.ca/pdf/ed004001.pdf>
- *Tombereaux – Engins de chantier* (2010), Institut national de recherche et de sécurité (INRS), ED 6065, Section 9.5, p. 34
 - Available online at www.inrs.fr
- *Roll-over protective structures (ROPS), falling object protective structures (FOPS), operator protective structures (OPS), and tip-over protective structures (TOPS) for mobile machinery – General Canadian requirements* – Canadian Standards Association B352.0-09, 20 pp.
 - Available for purchase at <http://shop.csa.ca> or for borrowing at www.centredoc.csst.qc.ca

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Louis-Philippe Simard, Prevention Consultant, at 418-653-1933, ext. 26.

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