



Division of Mineral Mining

Fatal Accident: Over-the-Road Truck Owner/Operator February 2, 2007

A trucking contractor was fatally injured Friday, February 2, 2007, at a quarry in Virginia. The 38-year-old victim was the owner/operator of a small fleet of tandem trucks that operated out of the quarry. He was fatally injured while performing repairs to a pony axle assembly on one of his trucks. Preliminary findings indicate that a small hydraulic jack supporting one of the tires slipped allowing the axle assembly to drop onto his chest and abdomen. The victim had eight years of experience as an independent contractor.



RECOMMENDATIONS: To prevent a similar accident from occurring, always properly block equipment against hazardous motion prior to starting repairs as required by Virginia Safety and Health Regulations for Mineral Mining 4 VAC 25-40-1685. The Division of Mineral Mining recommends that operators and contractors periodically conduct job safety/risk analyses to identify potential safety hazards associated with all work tasks and to develop safe work procedures.