



MSHA's Accident Prevention Program Safety Idea

**SAFETY
IS A
VALUE!**

“Positive Communications”

Category : [Communications](#)
Mine Type: [All Surface](#)

Can you see the white truck in the round mirror?
Can you see the person standing next to the white truck ?
The person is very hard to see.

Communication must be two-way or it isn't communication. This applies to audible and visual communication.



Recently a foreman was fatally injured when he was crushed beneath a truck. The accident occurred as the truck was backing toward the dump point. The victim was in the process of moving a water hose when a truck backed over him. Prior to the accident, the victim was in his office and notified the truck driver with a CB radio that he was going to cross the work area. However, it was later reported that no one heard a response to the victim's announcement. Following these communication procedures may save your life:

- Always **communicate with equipment operator** prior to entering the work area. Let the equipment operator know what you are going to do and where you will do it.
- Always get **confirmation from the equipment operator** that he/she heard you and understands your intentions.
- Always make sure the **equipment operator sees you** before entering the work area, even after you have communicated your intentions.
- Always **notify the equipment operator of your intentions and get confirmation** prior to moving to other areas around the equipment or leaving the work area.
- If possible, communicate with the equipment operator once you have left the work area.
- **Wear a high visibility vest** to increase your visibility in the work area.
- **Be aware of other individuals** who may be in the work area and communicate your intentions with them. All individuals in the work area should use two-way radio or other effective means communication.
- **NEVER, NEVER, NEVER** reenter a work area without restarting the communication process.

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Remember – Safety is a Value that you can LIVE with!