



FALL DEATHS

AT MINES

TIE OFF

BY WEARING
SAFETY BELTS
& LINES!

From April to August 2007, 6 miners were fatally injured when they fell from elevated structures and equipment. In each accident, fall protection equipment was either not worn or secured.



- On August 10, 2007, three contractors were being lowered into a shaft under construction at a coal mine. They were standing in this 6 feet tall muck bucket when something caused it to tip. The men fell about 570 feet.
- On July 30, 2007, a contractor was replacing the roof of a coal mine maintenance shop. He fell about 28 feet through a skylight or adjacent opening. He was wearing a safety harness but was not tied off.
- On July 29, 2007, two miners who were performing maintenance on the top of a hoist at a zinc mine, fell into the shaft when a H beam collapsed. The miner who was tied off survived, but the other miner, who was not tied off, fell 1,000 feet to the shaft bottom.
- On April 18, 2007, while standing on scaffolding at an alumina plant, a 52 year-old contractor unhooked his tie off lanyard, lost his balance, and fell about 57 feet.

Best Practices

- Ensure fall protection gear are properly worn and securely fastened at all times when there is a danger of falling.
- Ensure workers are trained and understand the proper use of fall protection equipment.
- Properly maintain fall protection equipment.
- Where possible, protect and guard all openings and platforms where persons may fall.