

30 CFR § 56.14130(g) Roll-over protective structures (ROPS) and seat belts.

Section 56.14130(g) *Wearing seat belts*. Seat belts shall be worn by the equipment operator except that when operating graders from a standing position, the grader operator shall wear safety lines and a harness in place of a seat belt.

In addition, 30 CFR § 56.14131 Seat belts for haulage trucks.

Section 56.14131(a) provides that seat belts shall be provided and worn in haulage trucks.

Section 56.14131(b) provides that seat belts shall be maintained in functional condition, and replaced when necessary to assure proper performance.

MSHA responded previously to questions related to manufacturer recommendations to replace seat belts every three years as follows:

30 CFR 56/57.14130(i) Seat belt maintenance. Seat belts shall be maintained in functional condition, and replaced when necessary to assure proper performance.

30 CFR 56/57.14131(b) Seat belts shall be maintained in functional condition, and replaced when necessary to assure proper performance.

30 CFR 56/57.14131(c) Seat belts required under this section shall meet the requirements of SAE J386, "Operator Restraint System for Off-Road Work

Machines" (1985, 1993, or 1997), which are incorporated by reference. SAE J386 5.13.3 states, "Seat belt assemblies should be inspected by the user regularly. Replace the seat belt assembly immediately if damage such as worn or damaged hardware, nicked or frayed strap, buckle or retractor malfunction, or loose stitching is found."

MSHA does not have a standard that requires seat belts to be replaced every three years.

For more information: [See MSHA'S Program Policy](#)

Both § 56.14130 and § 56.14131 are included in the Priority Standards under the "Rules to Live By" initiative that began in March 2010. These two standards were cited during 15 fatal accident investigations between 2000 and 2008.