



# MSHA MNM Hazard Alert

## Best Practices for Tire Repair, Replacement and Maintenance

**9 Miners Fatally Injured by  
Tire Accidents  
Between 1998 - 2011**

Three employees were seriously injured in 2012 when a front end loader tire ruptured while being inflated. The tire was being inflated in a shop and a safety cage was not used for protection.

### Best Practices

#### Always:

- Visually inspect tires and rims before placing mobile equipment in service.
- Check tires and rims prior to mounting for damage/defects. Replace severely rusted rims.
- Properly support and block equipment and large wheels to prevent movement.
- Check for loose clamps or nuts that can cause rim slippage or separation of components.
- Maintain recommended tire pressure in accordance with manufacturer instructions.
- Inflate tires in a safety cage or use a stand-off device and deflate tires prior to dismounting.

#### Never:

- Inflate a tire without inspecting the complete tire and rim assembly for unsafe conditions.
- Mismatch wheel and rim components.
- Apply heat to any rim/hub assembly that has an inflated or deflated tire mounted on it.
- Exceed the load rating for tires.
- Inflate a tire while standing in front of the wheel assembly.
- Operate equipment with less than minimum safe inflation PSI in the tires.
- Perform repairs inside large tires without proper ventilation.

