



# MSHA HAZARD ALERT

## Conveyor Startup Fatalities



3 miners died in the last 20 months when the belt conveyor they were working on started unexpectedly, conveying them under obstructions or off the end of the belt. In each case, the conveyor drive motor was not deenergized, locked and tagged. In one accident a co-worker knew the victim had not locked out. Two of the victims had less than 6 months of experience.

### Best practices

- Deenergize, lock and tag drive motor
- Establish and follow safe work procedures
- Train miners on general safety and tasks assigned
- Maintain communications with all miners
  - Insist on safe work procedures
  - Practice “brother’s keeper” safety
- Visually check conveyor before startup
- Account for all miners on work team
- Provide a pre-startup alarm
  - Loud enough to be heard
- Sound the alarm before conveyor startup
- Use fall protection when a fall hazard exists
- Provide and maintain a safe means of access to all working places

