

COAL MINE - NEAR FATAL ACCIDENTS On July 10, 2009 a serious accident occurred when a Ford F150 pickup truck rolled into a highwall drill. It appears the drill coordinator had left the Ford F150 pickup truck running at the top of the grade leading to the drill bench while delivering blast hole plugs to the driller. As the two were installing the plugs, the truck rolled down the grade striking and knocking them under the drill. The truck traveled approximately 130 feet down the 18.5% grade before colliding with the drill.



Best Practices

- Be aware that even a slight grade can cause an unattended vehicle to begin rolling, if proper procedures are not followed.
- Ensure the transmission is placed in park and the parking brake is set each time you park.
- Turn the wheels into a bank or berm prior to leaving the vehicle when parking on a grade.
- Use wheel chocks or blocks as an additional measure when parking on steep grades.
- Conduct good pre-operational examinations to identify any problems with park brakes, transmission shift indicators, and transmissions by testing the equipment when parked on a grade. Report any problems to management.