U.S. Department of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration

Protecting Miners' Safety and Health Since 1978

Let's Talk Shortcuts

Every time you take a "short cut", you put more than yourself at risk. When anyone chooses to take a chance and take a shortcut by ignoring safety, they put everyone in the mine at risk!!

SHORTCUTS LEAD TO DEADLY ACCIDENTS!

CASE #1 – Let's say a miner does NOT put up the curtain while mining in the face. He thinks he can save nearly 20 minutes if he doesn't fool around with that curtain. There has never been any gas at this mine, so why worry, right? **WRONG!!**

History has proven that mine explosions have occurred at mines where THERE WAS <u>NO PREVIOUS HISTORY</u> OF METHANE GAS!! Proper ventilation at the face is critical in preventing deadly mine explosions. **NEVER TAKE THIS SHORTCUT!**

CASE #2 – The shortest distance between two points is a straight line. The miner knows that if he can run through this un-bolted crosscut, he can get to the next face faster and finish his job quicker, right? **WRONG!!**

Roof fall accidents killed 4 coal miners last year. NO ONE CAN PREDICT WHEN THE ROOF WILL FALL! Walking or running under un-bolted roof is a bad idea and can result in your death. NEVER TAKE THIS SHORTCUT!

REMEMBER -- SHORTCUTS ONLY SHORTEN YOUR LIFE!



REMEMBER: Safety depends upon what <u>you</u> DO or DON'T DO.