



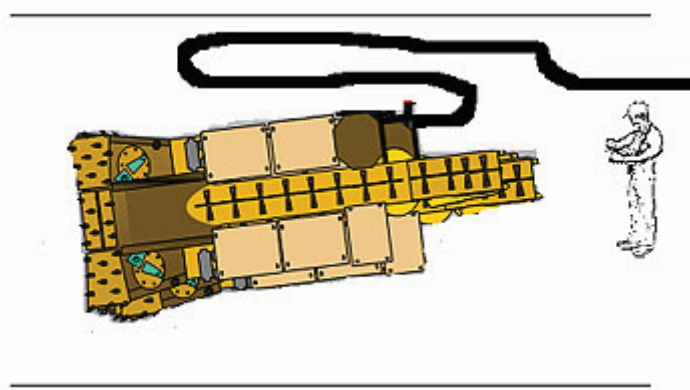
## MSHA's Accident Prevention Program Miner's Tip

**Safety and  
Health are  
Values!**

### **Cable Handling, Remote Control Continuous Miners**

Category : **Section Face Equipment**

Mine Type: **Underground Coal and Non-Metal**



When handling the cable within the turning radius of the remote control continuous miner, de-energize the machine and remote control unit according to established safe work practices.

Many fatal and near miss accidents have occurred because the cap lamp cord, a tool, or a body part accidentally pushed a tram lever.

Ensure that you and your co-workers always work safely.

**DO NOT RISK** entering the remote control continuous miner's turning radius to handle the cable unless the machine and remote control unit are de-energized according to established safe work practices.

**If you have a tip you would like to pass on, you can e-mail it to  
[zzMSHA-MinersTips@dol.gov](mailto:zzMSHA-MinersTips@dol.gov).**

**If your tip is selected, you will receive credit in this space.**

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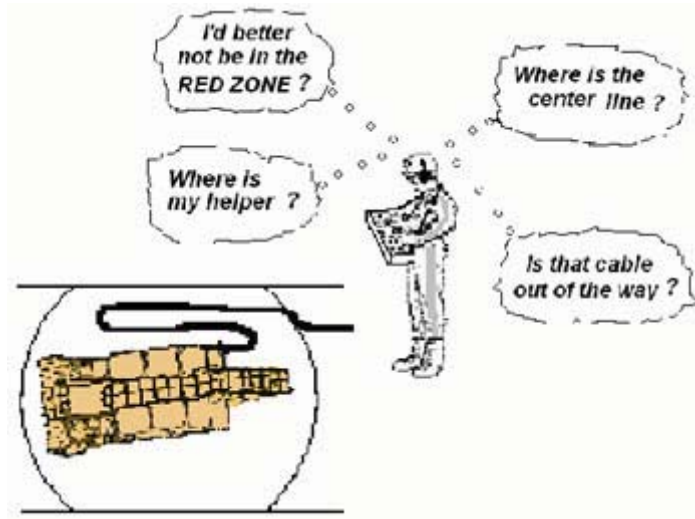
## MSHA's Accident Prevention Program Miner's Tip

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### Keep Your Mind On Your Work

Category : Section Face Equipment

Mine Type: Underground Coal and Non-Metal



Operators of remote controlled continuous mining machines have many things to do and think about.

Safety is one of many concerns for a continuous mining machine operator.

Never reposition the mining machine or tram it for a place change if you are positioned in the machine's turning radius.

De-energize the machine and remote control unit according to established safe work practices before entering the "[red zone](#)".

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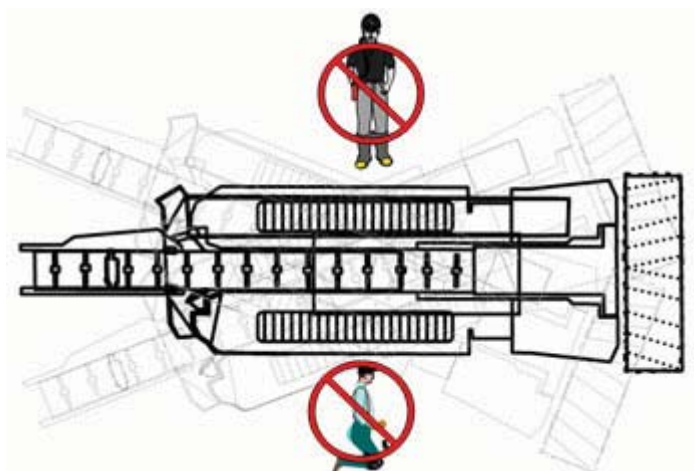
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## MSHA's Accident Prevention Program Safety Idea

Safety and  
Health are  
Values!

### The Middle of the Remote Control Continuous Miner Is Not a Safe Place



The middle of the remote control continuous miner (pivot point) is not a safe place from which to reposition or tram the machine during a place change.

The pivot point moves as the machine moves and may cause you to be in a position to be crushed if the miner suddenly turns.

Never operate the continuous miner when anyone is in the Red Zone

Although some roof control plans prohibit tramping the continuous miner from within the turning radius of the machine, it is important for You to always remember to **Stay Out of the Red Zone!**

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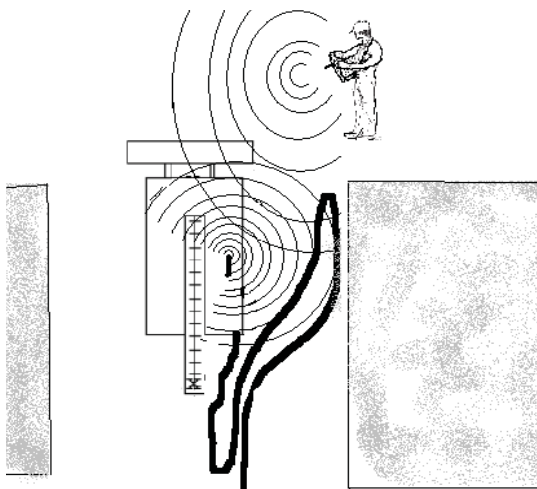
MSHA's Accident Prevention Program  
Miner's Tip

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Health are  
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**When Radio Signal is Lost, Don't Approach  
Remote Control Continuous Miners**

Category : Section Face Equipment

Mine Type: Underground Coal and Non-Metal



If the remote control continuous miner is not following the commands of the radio remote control, DO NOT get within the machine's turning radius to get closer to the machine's antenna.

It is a common tendency to believe the radio control signal is not making it to the machine's antenna when the machine is not following the radio remote control commands.

First, check that the Remote Control Unit is powered up by the cap lamp battery, and then try the control command again.

If the machine does not respond, assume the machine or remote control unit has malfunctioned and proceed according to established company policies for maintenance and trouble shooting of the radio remote control equipment.

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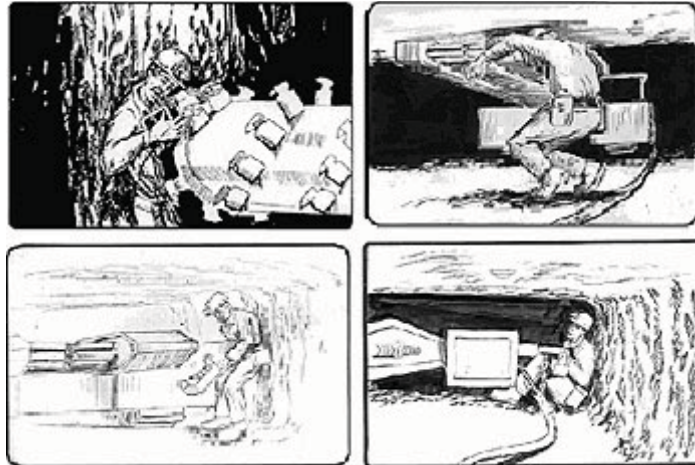
MSHA's Accident Prevention Program  
Miner's Tip

Safety and  
Health are  
Values!

**Tramming While Positioned Within the Turning  
Radius of the Remote Control Continuous Miner Can Be Fatal**

Category : **Section Face Equipment**

Mine Type: **Underground Coal and Non-Metal**



Fatal accident statistics show that the majority of all non-maintenance related crushing accidents involving remote controlled continuous mining machines happened when the victim was located within the turning radius of the machine while it was being trammed.

Statistics show that your location (**OUTSIDE** of the **MACHINE'S TURNING RADIUS**) is the single most important factor that prevents remote controlled continuous mining machine crushing injuries.

Never position yourself in the turning radius of the remote control continuous mining machine while it is being repositioned or trammed for a place change. Never enter the "**red zone**" unless the machine and remote control unit are de-energized according to established safe work practices.

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Tag # **AP2005- M91009**



## MSHA's Accident Prevention Program Miner's Tip

**SAFETY  
IS A  
VALUE!**

### Tramming Safety Using Remote Controls

**Category :** Section Face Equipment  
**Mine Type:** Underground Coal

Over the years, many miners have been fatally injured while operating continuous mining machines by remote control, most of them while tramming the continuous miner from "place-to-place". The majority of these accidents have occurred to machine operators or helpers being caught between the right rear of the mining machine and the coal rib. The following practices have proven to reduce hazards:



- If equipped with a deck and canopy, use it when tramming the continuous miner from place to place.
- Don't place yourself in danger. When tramming the continuous miner with the remote control, stay in front of or behind the machine.
- Plan your move so you don't have to be along side the machine to handle cables while the machine is in motion.
- Know where your helper or other miners are before starting to tram.
- Give yourself an escape route by being at the opening of a crosscut. If your back is against a rib, you don't have many options.



**Remember – Safety is a Value that you can LIVE with!**



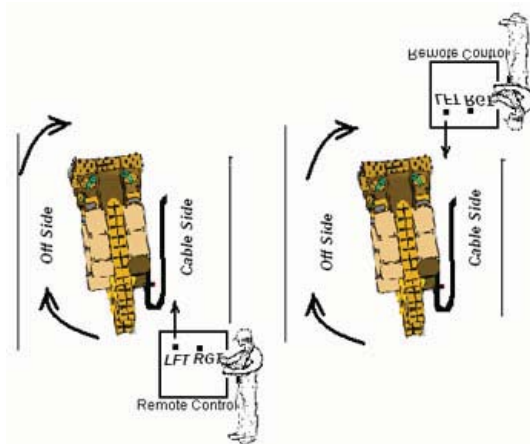
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### Turning a Remote Control Continuous Miner

Category : Section Face Equipment

Mine Type: Underground Coal and Non-Metal



When operating the miner from behind (at the conveyor boom end of the miner facing the cutter head): The LEFT TRAM FORWARD control will turn the cutter head toward the cable side of the machine and the boom toward the off side of the machine.

- When operating the miner from the front (at the cutter head end of the miner facing the boom): The LEFT TRAM FORWARD control will ALSO turn the cutter head toward the cable side of the machine and the boom toward the off side of the machine.

- ALWAYS expect the remote control to move the crawlers (CATS) in the same direction regardless of the direction you are facing.

- DO NOT become disoriented because your position changes. The operation of the remote control does not change if you are at the rear, facing forward or in the front, backing out.

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