



Natural building blocks for quality of life.

# SAFETY ALERT

## Handling Materials at M/NM Mines: January 2008 – December 2008

### 1 Fatality and 2098 Reportable Injuries 752 Miners Lost Work Time!

**Definition of Handling Materials:** Lifting, pulling, pushing, and shoveling material. The material may be in bags or boxes, or loose sand, coal, rock, timber, etc. The accident must have been most directly caused by handling material.

### FATALITY

On January 25, 2008, a 36 year-old mechanic with 1½ years experience was fatally injured at a lime operation. The victim was shoveling spillage at the bottom of a bucket elevator while coworkers performed maintenance at the top of the bucket elevator. A 38-inch pry bar fell from the platform around the top of the bucket elevator and struck him.

Leading Causes of Injuries:	
Over-exertion by lifting, pulling, pushing or throwing	<b>850</b>
Struck by falling, flying or rolling objects	<b>576</b>
Caught in, under or behind moving or stationary objects	<b>289</b>

Leading Injuries:	
Sprains, Strains, Rupture Discs	<b>769</b>
Cuts, Puncture-Open wounds	<b>480</b>
Fractures, Chip	<b>292</b>
Contusions, Bruises	<b>116</b>
Hernias	<b>60</b>
Amputations	<b>17</b>



- BEST PRACTICES:**
1. Check the size of your load, get help if too heavy
  2. Keep your back straight, lift with your legs
  3. Check your area (around, below and above)
  4. Use proper PPE
  5. Have the right tools to do the job

