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MACHINERY SAFETY ALERT

Machinery accidents continue to cause serious injuries and fatalities in the underground mining industry. All employees working in or around a mine must always remain alert to potential hazards when working around machinery.

REMEMBER: Many machinery accidents resulted when a person was caught between moving parts of the machine they were operating after control levers were modified.

SAFETY KEYPOINTS:

- ✓ - **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE** should any handle be altered, added to, changed, bent, lengthened, shortened, or substituted from its original design. Any alteration of these handles can affect the performance of the valve and jeopardize the safety of the operator.
- ✓ Conduct a pre-operational inspection of machine controls to detect malfunctions prior to operation. All equipment shall be maintained in a safe operating condition.
- ✓ Take time to recognize and avoid pinch points on rotating/moving machine components.
- ✓ Do not install any non-original equipment manufacturer lever extensions on the controls.
- ✓ Never touch or hold onto a rotating tool, wrench, or bolt.
- ✓ Gloves that may adhere to a rotating tool should not be used during drilling operations.
- ✓ Handling of rotating tools should be eliminated through practices and or equipment technology.
- ✓ Wear proper personal protection equipment and remove rings, watches and other jewelry.
- ✓ Avoid wearing loose fitting clothing.
- ✓ Inspect drill steel, extensions and wrenches for jagged edges and burrs prior to using.
- ✓ Always keep hands away from pinch points.
- ✓ **KNOW YOUR MACHINE!** Report anything abnormal about the operation of the machine and machine components.
- ✓ Review all safety bulletins associated with the machinery used. Keep these bulletins with the operator's manual and review them periodically.