Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy





On Tuesday, October 14, 2014, two surface mine supervisors experienced a near miss when the pickup truck they were in was struck by a loaded 785 rock truck. The pickup truck operators failed to communicate their intentions and movements to the heavy equipment operators. The pickup truck was leaving the pit slowly and pulled in front of the off-side of a 785 rock truck that was being loaded. The loaded 785 truck began pulling out at the same time and struck the pickup truck. Thankfully, both employees escaped without injury.

SAFETY KEYPOINTS:

- Always communicate with other drivers and operators to maintain safe distances.
- Traffic rules, signals, and warning signs shall be standardized at each mine and posted. This shall include, but not be limited to, rules for the travel of on-road vehicles operating near off-road haulers in work areas.
- Never position a passenger vehicle in the blind spot of large equipment.
- Strobe lights and tall flags should be used on passenger vehicles.

