



## CALIFORNIA DOZER OPERATORS GROUP

### Dozer Safety Bulletin



(Photo Credit: U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration – MSHA)

**DOZER OPERATOR FATALITY** - On Wednesday October 22, 2008, at approximately 2:45 p.m., a 40-year old bulldozer operator with 13 years experience was fatally injured at a surface coal mine. The victim was operating a bulldozer that was constructing a new bench in preparation for an excavator when the bulldozer overturned and fell approximately 80 feet.

#### Best Practices

- Stop, Look, Analyze, and Manage, (SLAM) each task to identify all potential hazards. Initiate action to protect yourself when performing every task.
- Train all equipment operators on proper work procedures and hazard recognition before they operate equipment.
- Keep the dozer blade between you and the edge when operating close to drop offs.
- Always wear seat belts when operating mobile equipment.
- Conduct pre-operational checks to identify any defects affecting safe equipment operation before placing into service.
- Maintain equipment braking and steering systems in good repair.

*Reference Credit: U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration – MSHA [www.MSHA.gov](http://www.MSHA.gov)*