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Dear valued partner,

In this month's safety newsletter, we will be discussing machinery and powered haulage.

Powered haulage equipment is essential in many industries, including mining, construction, and manufacturing. However, its size, power, and constant movement make it one of the most dangerous elements in the workplace. Incidents involving powered haulage - such as struck-by, crushed, or rollover events - often result in severe injuries or fatalities.

This month's safety spotlight focuses on identifying these hazards and promoting best practices to ensure every worker goes home safely.

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### What is the most effective way to prevent being struck by powered haulage equipment?

- A. Wear high-visibility clothing only
- B. Rely on the operator to see you
- C. Stay in designated walkways and maintain communication
- D. Walk near the equipment to stay in view

Answer at the end of the email.



(Missed a previous email? [Click here](#) to see an archive of previous months' safety emails on Rockwood's Loss Control website).



## WHAT IS POWERED HAULAGE?

Powered haulage includes mobile and stationary equipment used to move people, materials, or equipment. Common examples are:

- Haul trucks
- Front-end loaders
- Conveyors
- Shuttle cars
- Forklifts
- Railcars

### Common Hazards of Powered Haulage:

#### Runovers and Pinning

- Occurs when workers are struck or trapped by moving equipment.
- Causes: Poor visibility, lack of communication, and failure to use spotters.

#### Equipment Rollovers

- Can happen on steep grades or during sharp turns.
- Seat belts and proper speed control are critical for prevention.

#### Brake or Mechanical Failures

- Lead to uncontrolled movement, especially on inclines.
- Often due to poor maintenance or skipped pre-use inspections.

#### Collisions

- Involve equipment hitting people, vehicles, or fixed objects.

- Usually caused by blind spots, excessive speed, or poor communication.


### Conveyor System Injuries

- Workers can get caught in moving parts or struck by materials.
- Guarding and proper lockout/tagout procedures are often neglected.



## SAFETY TIPS FOR POWERED HAULAGE

Follow these tips to help avoid incident or injury:

 <p><b>Pre-Use Inspections:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Check brakes, lights, steering, backup alarms, tires and seatbelts.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Seatbelts are your last line of defense in a rollover. Never disable or ignore them.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Report and fix</b> any defects before use.</li> <li>• <b>Before servicing conveyors or mobile equipment,</b> always de-energize and lock out machinery.</li> <li>• <b>Never bypass safety guards or emergency stops.</b></li> <li>• <b>Don't take shortcuts -</b> Skipping a safety check or riding outside a cab may save seconds but could cost lives.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Stay in Safe Zones</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Use marked pedestrian walkways.</b></li> <li>• <b>Never assume the operator can see you -</b> Stay visible and make eye contact.</li> <li>• <b>Use high visibility clothing</b> but do not assume because you are wearing it that the operator can see you.</li> <li>• <b>Do not stand in between a piece of mobile equipment and other stationary objects</b> (other vehicles, walls, equipment etc.) as this creates a pinch point that you can be crushed against.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Communicate Clearly</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Use radios, lights, horns, and hand signals.</b></li> <li>• <b>Confirm that signals are received</b> before moving equipment.</li> </ul>



## Rockwood resources:

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- [Working Near Machinery and Equipment](#) – Toolbox Talk
- [Safety Around Conveyor Belts](#) – Toolbox Talk
- [Working Near Cranes](#) – Toolbox Talk
- [Communication](#) – Toolbox Talk
- [Worker Position](#) – Toolbox Talk

You can find additional Rockwood Toolbox Talks [here](#).

## OSHA, MSHA and other resources:

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- [Powered Haulage Safety](#) | MSHA
- [Underground Powered Haulage](#) | MSHA Presentation
- [Machinery & Vehicular Safety](#) | OSHA PowerPoint download
- [Powered Haulage Equipment Safety Guidance](#) | MSHA
- [Seatbelt Safety](#) | MSHA Presentation
- [Fatality Alert - August 7, 2025](#) | MSHA - This is the 18th fatality reported in 2025, and the 7th classified as “Powered Haulage”



## Learn more about powered haulage on Streamery

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Every Rockwood policy includes access to Streamery, a vast safety library with videos, quizzes and more resources to help you promote safety in your workplace. If you don't have access, contact us to get a username. Enter the SKU number below to find the recommended video.

### Watch these videos on [Streamery](#):

- **Site Work Safety: Preventing Injuries Above & Below Ground:** 13 min / SKU: 5445 + 5445-S / English & Spanish
- **Dump Truck Safety for Operators and Pedestrians:** 13 min / SKU: 5451 + 5451-S / English & Spanish
- **Forklift and Powered Industrial Truck Safety:** 25 min / SKU: 5404 + 5404-S / English & Spanish
- **Caught-In/Between Hazards in Construction Environments:** 14 min / SKU: 3486 / English



## Bonus materials:

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### 1: Safety & Networking Opportunity

The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association - Somerset Council is holding their first meeting of the season. Hope to see you there!

- When:** Tuesday, October 7, 2025
- Time:** Social - 5:30 p.m.  
Meeting and dinner starting at 6:00 p.m.
- Where:** Stoystown American Legion Post #257  
359 N. Club Road  
Stoystown, PA 15563

Adam Dunmire, Loss Control Representative from Rockwood Casualty Insurance will be the speaker for the meeting.

Complimentary meal provided.

## 2: October is Fire Safety Month

This year's National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Fire Prevention Week™ (FPW™) campaign, October 5-11, "[Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home.](#)" works to educate everyone about using these batteries safely.

## 3: National Safety Council – October Safety Observance

- National Substance Abuse Prevention Month - [Implications of Drug Use for Employers - National Safety Council](#)
- National Protect Your Hearing Month - [Noise and Occupational Hearing Loss | Noise and Hearing Loss | CDC](#)
- Oct. 20-24 - National School Bus Safety Week - [School Buses - National Safety Council](#)

## 4: Seat Belt Covers

Don't forget that Rockwood Casualty is providing **FREE** high visibility seatbelt covers to our insureds to assist in enforcement of seatbelt use by employees. Please contact [safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com](mailto:safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com) to make a request for your company and specify orange or yellow.



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## Questions? Feel free to reach out

As always, your Rockwood partners are available to answer your questions and help you promote safety in the workplace. [Contact Rockwood Loss Control](#) for any support you need.

Thank you for your continued partnership,

**Rockwood Loss Control Team**  
[Safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com](mailto:Safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com)

 [#RockwoodSafetySolutions](#) [#LossControl](#) [#SafetyTips](#)



**ANSWER:** What is the most effective way to prevent being struck by powered haulage equipment?

- A. Wear high-visibility clothing only
- B. Rely on the operator to see you
- C. **Stay in designated walkways and maintain communication**
- D. Walk near the equipment to stay in view

