

Safety-Gram

Title 45, Chapter 11

November 2022

Volume 23, Number 11

Communication – The Key to Success

Importance of Communication

Proper communication is crucial for **ANY TASK** to run safely and efficiently. When communication is at the forefront of everything we do, there can catastrophic consequences for everyone involved. So, how do we ensure company policy clearly lays out how to comply with this? What tools do miners need to carry out these policies?

Communication in the Mines

-ODM- [Title 45-Chapter 11-Section 919 \(2\)](#)

No employee shall be assigned, allowed or required to perform work alone in any area where hazardous conditions exist that would endanger his safety unless he can communicate with others, can be heard or can be seen.

-MSHA- [§ 56.18020 Working Alone.](#)

No employee shall be assigned, or allowed, or be required to perform work alone in any area where hazardous conditions exist that would endanger his safety unless he can communicate with others, can be heard, or can be seen.

ODM and MSHA law on communication mirror each other in terms of what is expected when working alone and how to establish continuous communication. A miner should never be caught without a way to communicate. Period! ---*Working alone should not be a routine work practice---* *It's just bad policy!*



General safety in communication

There are many other ways that safety is communicated in the workplace. **Verbal communication is also very important.** When you see a situation where someone could be hurt or there could be property loss you should always speak up. Have a conversation with the individuals involved in the task to voice your concerns. Involve the right personnel to correct a situation before an injury occurs.



This picture illustrates two things! General safety was not communicated AND the right "competent" person was not involved!