

§ 57.3401

which would not expose persons to danger.

§ 57.3401 Examination of ground conditions.

Persons experienced in examining and testing for loose ground shall be designated by the mine operator. Appropriate supervisors or other designated persons shall examine and, where applicable, test ground conditions in areas where work is to be performed, prior to work commencing, after blasting, and as ground conditions warrant during the work shift. Underground haulageways and travelways and surface area highwalls and banks adjoining travelways shall be examined weekly or more often if changing ground conditions warrant.

PRECAUTIONS—SURFACE ONLY

§ 57.3430 Activity between machinery or equipment and the highwall or bank.

Persons shall not work or travel between machinery or equipment and the highwall or bank where the machinery or equipment may hinder escape from falls or slides of the highwall or bank. Travel is permitted when necessary for persons to dismount.

PRECAUTIONS—UNDERGROUND ONLY

§ 57.3460 Maintenance between machinery or equipment and ribs.

Persons shall not perform maintenance work between machinery or equipment and ribs unless the area has been tested and, when necessary, secured.

§ 57.3461 Rock bursts.

(a) Operators of mines which have experienced a rock burst shall—

(1) Within twenty four hours report to the nearest MSHA office each rock burst which:

- (i) Causes persons to be withdrawn;
- (ii) Impairs ventilation;
- (iii) Impedes passage; or
- (iv) Disrupts mining activity for more than one hour.

(2) Develop and implement a rock burst control plan within 90 days after a rock burst has been experienced.

(b) The plan shall include—

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(1) Mining and operating procedures designed to reduce the occurrence of rock bursts;

(2) Monitoring procedures where detection methods are used; and

(3) Other measures to minimize exposure of persons to areas which are prone to rock bursts.

(c) The plan shall be updated as conditions warrant.

(d) The plan shall be available to an authorized representative of the Secretary and to miners or their representatives.

Subpart C—Fire Prevention and Control

AUTHORITY: Sec. 101, Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977, Pub. L. 91–173 as amended by Pub. L. 95–164, 91 Stat. 1291 (30 U.S.C. 811).

§ 57.4000 Definitions.

The following definitions apply in this subpart.

Combustible liquids. Liquids having a flash point at or above 100 °F (37.8 °C). They are divided into the following classes:

Class II liquids—those having flash points at or above 100 °F (37.8 °C) and below 140 °F (60 °C).

Class IIIA liquids—those having flash points at or above 140 °F (60 °C) and below 200 °F (93.4 °C).

Class IIIB liquids—those having flash points at or above 200 °F (93.4 °C).

Escapeway. A designated passageway by which persons can leave an underground mine.

Flash point. The minimum temperature at which sufficient vapor is released by a liquid to form a flammable vapor-air mixture near the surface of the liquid.

Main fan. A fan that controls the entire airflow of an underground mine or the airflow of one of the major air circuits of the mine.

Mine opening. Any opening or entrance from the surface into an underground mine.

Safety can. A container of not over five gallons capacity that is designed to safely relieve internal pressure when