

MINE VEHICLE COLLISIONS

In 2020 alone, over 60 dangerous occurrences were reported to the Office of the Chief Inspector, resulting from vehicle-on-vehicle interactions. These interactions are most hazardous between large vehicles, such as haul trucks and personnel carriers, such as light-duty pickup trucks. Section 6.8.3 of the Health, Safety and Reclamation Code for Mines in British Columbia (Code) requires that the mine manager prepare traffic control procedures showing the:

- maximum allowable speeds for the vehicles in use,
- rules for passing,
- “stop” and “yield rules,”
- priority rules for various vehicles,
- rules for night operation,
- maximum operating grades,
- emergency runoff protection,
- shoulder barriers, and
- any other information that may be required to ensure the safe operation of all types of vehicles on the mine site.



All mines must ensure effective implementation of traffic control procedures, including worker awareness and training.

Recommendations

- Design and implement mine traffic control procedures
- Enhance light-duty vehicles visibility by using whips, beacons, or other means
- Design and implement a standard communication protocol
- Ensure all personnel recognize risks surrounding the blind spots of large equipment

Requirements

The following includes additional (non-exhaustive) requirements that must be considered regarding vehicle-on-vehicle interactions. For further information, please review the Code:

Mobile Equipment – Code s.4.9.01 – s.4.9.21

Mine Haul Road Design – Code s.6.9.1 and s.6.9.2

Equipment Operation – Code s.6.19.1-6

Additional Resources

www.msha.gov/powerdhaulage