Kane’s Quarry
(Dimension Sandstone)

Fatal Accident: March 23, 2015
Overview

• March 23, 2015 Daniel Acker, Owner/Operator, age 49 was killed while cutting stone on top of a bench

• He was using a walk-behind, self-propelled concrete saw
Overview

- Daniel Acker was positioned between the saw and the ledge, when he tripped and fell.

- He and the saw went over the 4 ½ foot ledge.

- The saw fell on him.
Information

Read the sections from “General Information” through “Training and Experience” on pages 1-4 of the Accident Investigation report.
Information

• Why was this facility not on MSHA’s inspection schedule?
• Would an inspection have prevented the accident?
• Were weather conditions a factor in the accident?
• What type of task training had the victim received?
Information

• Were fall protection provisions in place?
• What was Acker doing at the time of the accident?
• Did his position contribute to the accident?
• What precautions might have prevented this accident?
Victim was sawing stone blocks on the upper bench when he fell to the lower bench below (sump area) and the saw fell on top of him.
What was the cause of the accident?
Basic Causes

• Victim’s failure to maintain control of the equipment
The victim failed to maintain control of the self-propelled concrete saw that he was operating in reverse gear while repositioning to cut stone. No procedures were in place for persons to safely operate the walk-behind, self-propelled concrete saw on an elevated bench.
What could have prevented this accident?
Accident Prevention

Outline proper procedure for performing this task
**MSHA Best Practices**

- Identify all hazards and use appropriate controls to protect miners prior to conducting any work.
- Ensure that operators are in a safe position and have control of their equipment at all times.
- Keep workplaces free of tripping hazards.
- Use barricades or railings at edges of drop-offs where persons are in danger of falling.
MSHA Best Practices

- Equip walk behind masonry saws with automatic shut off devices to stop the engine if the operator cannot maintain control of the equipment.

- Design bench top stone cutting patterns to ensure the saw operator is not positioned between the saw and the drop off edge.