



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF MINERS' HEALTH, SAFETY AND TRAINING
BUREAU OF COMMERCE

1615 WASHINGTON STREET, EAST • CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25311-2126 • TELEPHONE: (304) 559-1425 • FAX: (304) 556-1282

GASTON CAPERTON
GOVERNOR

STEPHEN F. WEBBER
DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Inspectors-at-Large

FROM: Doug Conaway, Administrator *Doug Conaway*
Enforcement and Safety

DATE: September 9, 1996

RE: Memo / BCMHS / "Mac-8" Battery Powered Personnel Carrier



Please have your inspectors distribute the attached memo to the appropriate underground operators in your region. This memo was mailed to all underground operators, but we also would like to do a follow-up with the inspectors.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

JDC:ks
Attachment



WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF COAL MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY

1591 Washington Street, E. • Charleston, WV 25311 • (304) 558-3721 • FAX: 558-3729

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: All Underground Coal Mine Operators
FROM: Board of Coal Mine Health and Safety
SUBJECT: "Mac-8" Battery Powered Personnel Carrier
DATE: August 19, 1996

On April 11, 1996 the State of West Virginia had the fourth mining fatality of the 1996 year. This fatality involved a "Mac-8" battery-powered personnel carrier. The personnel carrier had been parked up grade from the accident site and according to testimony the park brake had been set. After several minutes the "Mac-8" personnel carrier drifted down the grade and caught the victim between the personnel carrier and the roof bolt machine.

As a result of this fatality the manufacturer of the "Mac-8", as an added safety precaution, has developed a park brake arm locking device. Shims have also been added which allow the brake arm, when set, to be raised a few inches from the machine floor.

The Board of Coal Mine Health and Safety recommends all mine operators utilizing the "Mac-8" personnel carrier to contact the manufacturer concerning the above mentioned items to determine whether these changes should be adapted to the "Mac-8" personnel carrier(s) used by your company.

The manufacturer of the "Mac-8" personnel carrier can be reached at:

Damascus Pneumatic Corp.
P. O. Box 610
Abington, VA 24212-0610
Telephone: (540) 676-2376

RHarris:lgh