FATAL ALERT

On the evening of October 12, 2018, an employee was driving an unloaded CAT 773 haul truck down a temporary haul road. The unloaded truck struck the right rear tire of a loaded CAT 773 haul truck traveling up the haul road. The unloaded truck veered into the opposite lane, traveled through a safety berm and violently descended down a steep slope. The employee was ejected from the cab and died on the scene.

Significant Factors

• Training was inadequately administered to employees prior to them being released to operate haul trucks on their own.

• Employees failed to report near misses and incidents to supervisors.

Recommendations

• Create a comprehensive training program for drivers and operators of heavy equipment.

• Provide increased training for supervisors to recognize potential substance abuse on job sites.

• Create a program to provide for more direct observations of employee actions by supervisors, such as hourly observations of operations under their control.

• Provide training to employees on how to report incidents/accidents on the job site.