Train Hits Worker Returning After Break

A mine crew was returning to work after a lunch break, walking on a walkway beside a mine train. The train was traveling on the tracks, propelled by a locomotive at the rear of the train. The area was not lighted except by lights carried by the miners. One worker was struck by the lead car and dragged under the wheels of the train. He died during the rescue attempt.

The lack of lighting and the position of the operator at the rear of the train prevented this worker from being seen. The victim had a hearing loss and was also wearing earplugs, so probably did not hear the horn on the train. It appears he may have been bending over to pick up something he dropped when he was struck by the train. Always be alert to moving vehicles, no matter where you work.