

Are Your Guards Creating Hazards?

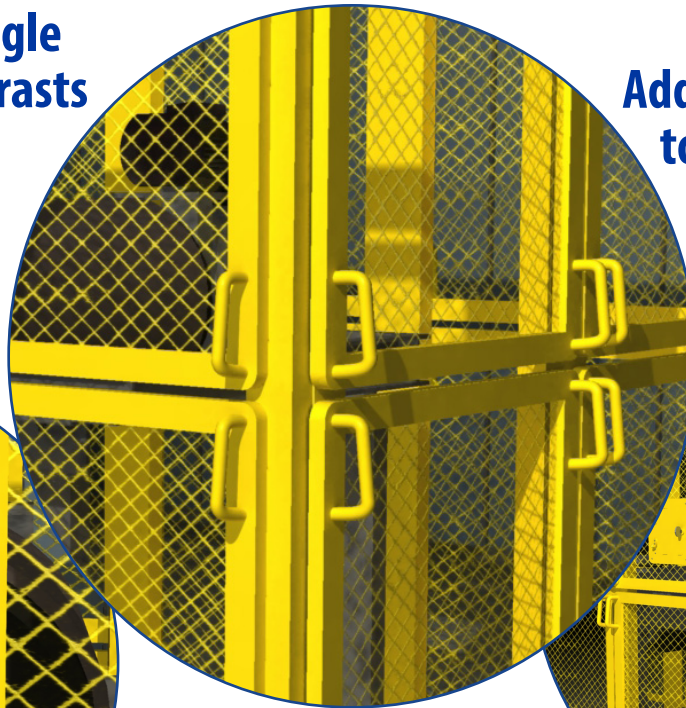
Each year more than 400 miners miss an average of 45 days from work due to improperly designed machine guards. That's over 18,000 days a year lost!*



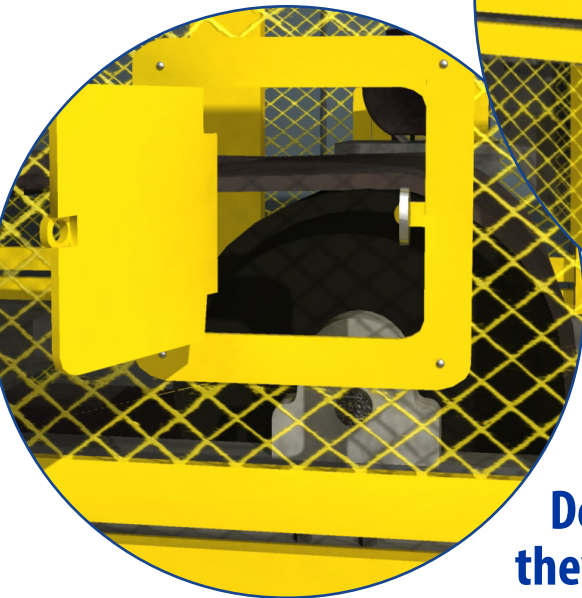
18,000
days lost

Design the hazard out of the guard!

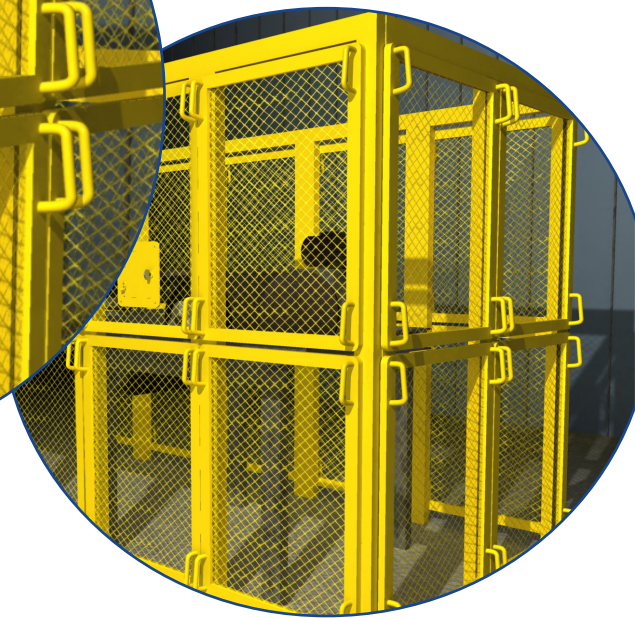
Paint the guards a single bright color that contrasts with the surrounding area to make them easier to see.



Add handles or handholds to improve grip.



Design guards so they don't need to be removed for inspections.



Design guards in small, lightweight sections for easy removal by one person.

Illustrations by NIOSH

* Data based on an analysis by NIOSH researchers of all injuries reported to MSHA between 2004 and 2012 with the source of injury identified as metal covers and guards.



Centers for Disease Control
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National Institute for Occupational
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