



Mine Safety and Health: Tampering Scandal Led to Improved Sampling Devices: HRD-93-63

U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)

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## Mine Safety and Health: Tampering Scandal Led to Improved Sampling Devices: Hrd-93-63

By -

BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 26 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. Pursuant to a congressional request, GAO reviewed the Mine Safety and Health Administrations (MSHA) development and use of tamper-resistant devices, particularly cassettes and pumps, for collecting coal dust samples in its respirable coal dust program. GAO found that: (1) before the Secretary of Labor's 1991 announcement of massive tampering with coal dust samples, no incentive existed for the coal industry to independently improve tamper-resistant cassettes; (2) the Bureau of Mines, MSHA, and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) did not seek more federal funding for tamper-resistant cassette research from 1978 through 1991; (3) the extent to which the Bureau of Mines, MSHA, and NIOSH evaluated the test results and made appropriate decisions could not be determined, since most of the documentation on prototype development was destroyed by agency personnel no longer in the federal workforce; (4) a manufacturer modified the cassette filter to prevent direct tampering in 1991, and also developed a tamper-resistant pump for monitoring industrial hygiene, in 1992; (5) MSHA will not require coal mine operators to purchase the pump immediately; (6) MSHA supports adopting a continuous...



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