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SPEEDING UP SHAFT SINKING IN THE USSR WITH THE BCh LOADER

Since in sinking vertical mine shafts, 60 to 65 percent of the time involved is taken up in loading the blasted rock, the mechanization of this process will greatly speed up mine sinking.

At present the use of the BCh-1 loader is being more and more widely adopted in sinking vertical shafts. Either one or two machines may be used, depending on the size of the section. The best results obtained from the use of one BCh-1 loader were achieved in "Tsentral'no-Zavodskaya" Mine (Donbass), "Proletarskaya-Glubokaya" Mine (Donbass), and Mine No 35 of the Maykudukskiy UNSh (Karaganda). In the first case, 40 to 42 meters of completed mine shaft were finished in a month; in the second case, 38 meters; in the third case, 36 meters. The best results obtained from using two machines were achieved in Mine No 10 of the Stalinshakhtovosstanovleniye Trust and "Mushketovskaya-Vertikal'naya" Mine (Donbass). In the former case, 42 meters of completed mine shaft were finished in a month, and in the latter case, 30 to 32 meters.

The following table indicated time consumed in the actual operation of the loader:

Name of Mine	Average Time Consumption (min)	
	Loading Rock Into Bucket with BCh-1 Machine	Awaiting Arrival of Bucket and Removing Chain
Mine No 10-bis, Stalinshakhtovosstanovleniye (Donbass)	3.4	2.7
"Mushketovskaya-Vertikal'naya" Mine, Stalinshakhtostroy Trust (Donbass)	4.0	2.5
"Tsentral'no-Zavodskaya" Mine, Stalinshakhtovosstanovleniye Trust (Donbass)	3.3	2.2

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Name of Mine	Average Time Consumption (min)	
	Loading Rock into Bucket with BCh-1 Machine	Awaiting Arrival of Bucket and Removing Chain
"Taybinskaya" Mine, Prokop'yevsk-shakhtostroy Trust (Kuzbass)	5.2	4.1
Mine No 35, Maykudukskiy UNSh (Karaganda)	3.4	3.6
"Vertikal'naya" Mine No 1, Maykudukskiy UNSh (Karaganda)	3.4	3.2
Mine No 70, Central UNSh (Karaganda)	3.5	3.3
Average	3.47	2.9

Time consumption varied according to the size of the bucket used to receive the rock scooped up by the BCh-1 loader. These variations are indicated in the following table:

	Average Time Consumption (min)				
Bucket capacity (cu m)	1.0	1.20	1.50	1.75	2.0
Loading rock into bucket by BCh-1 machine	3.47	4.16	5.2	6.07	6.95
Awaiting arrival of bucket and removing chain	2.9	2.21	1.17	0.30	-
Total	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.37	6.95
Loading rock into bucket by hand	9.5	11.4	14.3	16.6	19.0

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