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PNEUMATIC LOCOMOTIVES IN MINING

*mining transport,
pneumatic locomotives*

First steam locomotives were created at the beginning of 19th century. In the underground excavation zones of coal mines, however, steam locomotives did not become common due to the amount of steam and smoke they produced. First underground attempts with the use of locomotives powered by compressed air were undertaken whilst drilling tunnels in the Alps. Serial production of pneumatic locomotives was initiated in 1905. Among Silesian coal mines first pneumatic locomotives were bought by Godula concern for Morgenroth coal mine in Chebzie. Building of coal mines in Rybnik Coal Area and excavation of methane layers forced the use of pneumatic locomotives for underground haulage. The BVD type locomotives of Czechoslovak production as well as Toll type locomotives produced by Jung Company were used in the Polish coal beds with high methane risk. Pneumatic locomotives found largest use in coal mines endangered with methane.