



Northeast Newsletter

Winter Jan 09

Northeast District; James R. Petrie, Manager

Warrendale, Pennsylvania

Congratulations! The U.S. Mining Industry (Coal & MNM) set a record low number of fatalities in CY 2008. The 51 fatalities that occurred was a 37% improvement over the 67 in CY2007. MNM also set a record low with 22 fatalities, which was 15% below the previous record lows of 26 fatalities set in 2003 and again in 2006. You all should be proud of your contribution towards these achievements.
Many thanks and stay safe!

<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>
27	35	26	33	22

3 Fatalities in the Northeast District

Regrettably, three of the 22 MNM fatalities in CY 2008 occurred in the NE District. The following is a brief summary.

Fatality #11 – May 31, 2008 Fall of Back - New York - Lead-Zinc Ore St. Lawrence Zinc Company, LLC - Balmat Mine No. 4 & Mill



METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY - On May 31, 2008, a 40 year-old driller with 2 years experience was fatally injured at an underground lead-zinc mine. The victim was using a jackleg drill to drill a hole near the face when the bit came off the drill steel. He was attempting to retrieve the bit when a piece of rock, approximately 8½ feet x 4 feet x 14 inches thick, fell from the roof striking him.

Best Practices

- Examine and test ground conditions in areas where work is to be performed prior to work commencing and as ground conditions warrant during the shift.
- When ground conditions create a hazard to persons, install ground support before other work is permitted in the affected area.
- Be alert to any change of ground conditions.
- Identify and scale loose ground from a location which will not expose persons to falling material.

Fatality #14 – August 18, 2008 Machinery - Pennsylvania - Limestone (C&B) Coolspring Stone Supply Inc - Coolspring Mining Inc

METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY - On August 18, 2008, a 28 year-old contractor mechanic/welder with 8 years experience was fatally injured on the surface at an underground stone mine. A crane was being used to lower into place a 7,000 pound counterweight for a scaling machine. The victim was checking alignment of the bolt holes for the counterweight when one of connectors on the rigging broke, causing the counterweight to swing and strike him. The second connector then broke and the counterweight fell on top of the victim.



Best Practices

- Establish and discuss safe work procedures. Identify and control all hazards to finish the job safely.
- Train all persons to recognize and understand safe procedures to perform tasks before beginning work.
- Keep all persons clear of suspended loads.
- Use sling or chain assemblies (rigging) specifically intended for lifting and adequately rated for the loads being lifted.
- Carefully inspect all rigging prior to each use.
- Properly attach or rig slings, chains, and hooks.

Fatality #17 - October 7, 2008 Falling Material - Pennsylvania - Limestone (Crushed & Broken) Pennsy Supply Inc - Hummelstown Quarry



METAL/NONMETAL MINE FATALITY - On October 7, 2008, a 56 year-old lead man with 18 years of experience was fatally injured at a crushed stone operation. The victim was in a chute of an underground surge tunnel when material from above sloughed off and engulfed him.

Best Practices

- Identify potential hazards and establish safe work procedures for any work conducted in a surge tunnel.
- Never work under material feeding into bins, hoppers, chutes, and surge tunnels.
- Remove or prevent all material from falling if repairs are required in chutes or hoppers.
- Disconnect and lock out the circuits controlling the feed before entering.



The annual Sentinels of Safety award program recognizes achievement of outstanding safety records, to stimulate greater interest in safety and to encourage development of more effective accident prevention programs among the Nation's mineral extractive industries. This program is cosponsored by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the National Mining Association (NMA).

Sentinel of Safety Award

Three operations in the Northeastern District were recently announced as winners of the Sentinels of Safety Award for 2007 in their respective mining categories.

Small Dredge Group Winner

David G. Horsey & Sons, Inc. James Pit
David G. Horsey & Sons, Inc, Laurel, DE
Hours Worked: 10,860

Small Metal Nonmetal Mill Group Winner

Litchfield Quarry
Barrett Paving Materials, Inc., Clayville, NY
Hours Worked: 26,722

Small Open Pit Group Winner

Argonaut Mine
Rio Tinto Minerals-Luzenac America, Inc., Ludlow, VT
Hours Worked: 15,126

Group winners receive the Sentinels of Safety traveling trophy to display for one year, along with a commemorative certificate.



Underground at Cargill Salt



Bret Park, Steve Horne, Cargill Mine Mgr., Scott Johnson

On December 9, 2008, Don Foster Assistant District Manager, Scott Johnson, Health Specialist and Bret Park, Safety Specialist, all from MSHA traveled to Cargill Deicing Technology's Cayuga Mine in Lansing, NY to recognize their achievement of the following safety milestones.

- One year with no Reportable Accidents
- Two Years with no Lost Time Accidents
- Seven years of maintaining an incident rate below the National Average

Please join us in congratulating these outstanding operations!



2009 MSHA/NSSGA Spring Thaw Safety Workshops Take Time For Safety!

WHO SHOULD ATTEND? Owners, Mine Managers, Supervisors, Foremen, Miners (laborers)
and Independent Contractors who do work at mine/quarry properties.

Workshops will run 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. Workshop's are provided at no cost with food and refreshments provided at most locations.

WORKSHOP LOCATIONS

DATE	LOCATION	CITY	COORDINATOR
February 5th Albany Field Office 518-489-0573	Albany Airport Inn (Best Western Hotel) Wolf Road Albany, NY 12205 518-459-2181	Albany, NY	Scott McKenna 518-623-2352
February 24th Manchester Field Office 603-666-7691	Best Western Executive Court Inn and Conference Center 13500 S Willow Street Manchester, NH 03103-2387 603-626-4788	Manchester, NH	Robert Cole 603-224-2146 & Jim Marcou 603-234-8667
March 3rd Wyomissing Field Office 610-372-2761	Reading Crown Hotel (Formerly: Sheraton Reading Hotel) 1741 Papermill Road Wyomissing, PA 19610 610-376-3811	Reading, PA	Lois Rollman 717-626-9745
March 17th Warrendale Field Office 724-772-2334	Celebration Hall 2280 Commercial Drive State College, PA 16823 814-238-0824	State College, PA	Lois Rollman 717-626-9745
March 19th Charlottesville Field Office 434-975-2366	Boxley Materials Co. 15418 W Lynchburg-Salem Turnpike Blue Ridge VA 24064	Roanoke, VA	This location is tentative

Don't miss the opportunity to hear from MSHA Management and some of the top Safety Trainers and Professionals of the Northeast.

Topics to be Presented:

Health and Safety topics presented will be to provide Mine Operators with timely and current accident prevention information as well as training tools to bring back to your operation. Topics will include hazard assessments and safe work procedures regarding mobile equipment, maintenance, plant, workplace examinations just to name a few. Regulatory up-dates and initiatives from MSHA will also be provided

RSVP

Please RSVP with your local MSHA field office or listed Coordinator.

Attention Bluestone Operators

Annual Refresher Training will be given at two locations:

Bradford County PA Feb 24, 2009 For more info please call Wyomissing PA MSHA Office 610-372-2761

Deposit NY Feb 25, 2009 For more info please call Geneva NY MSHA Office 315-789-0522



Why is the Stay Out Stay Alive Campaign so Important!

The chart speaks for its self.

Stay Out Stay Alive Fatality Demographics

2003-2008

The following data on active and abandoned mine fatalities of non-employees was compiled from various reports and press articles and may not be a complete representation of these accidents.

Year	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	Total
Fatalities	29	31	30	24	35	28	177
Age							
-15	2	3		2	3	3	13
15-25	13	16	13	11	18	13	84
26-35	6	3	4	5	6	5	29
36-45	2	3	6	3	5	3	22
45+	5	6	7	2	3	3	26
Unknown	1			1		1	3
Gender							
M	23	28	28	23	33	27	162
F	6	3	2	1	2	1	15
Top Causes							
Drowning	9	15	17	16	23	23	103
ATV/Car/Cycle	6	10	6	5	7		35
Mine Status							
Abandoned/ Inactive	21	21	26	24	30	25	145
Active	8	10	4		3	2	27
Undetermined					2	1	3
Most Dangerous Months (top 4)							
May	6	7	2	3	9	1	28
June	2	7	2	7	6	9	33
July	5	4	14	6	6	9	44
August	2	2	6	3	4	4	21

Come Grow With Us!

Joseph A. Holmes – West Penn Council Safety Meeting



The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association Mission

Today, the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association effectively functions as one of the Nation's largest, if not the largest, safety associations dedicated to the promotion of health and safety of miners, associated industries, and families of both. This is accomplished through the non-adversarial relationship of members from the association's five member groups. Over 450,000 employees of mining and associated industries represented by JHSA strive to meet the goal of the JHSA mission statement: "Promote effective management of safety in mining and associated industries by providing a forum of government, industry, and labor to develop solutions through communications, education, and recognition of safety excellence."

The Joseph A. Holmes West Penn Council holds monthly meetings from Sept. through May in Kittanning the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6pm. You are invited to attend and interface with other local safety – conscious people from various areas within the mining community.

Super Shooters (Silagy's Coach House)
Route 422 East
Kittanning PA

For more information please contact:

Phone (724) 772-2334

Fax (724) 772-0260

[Email: biedenbach.sharon@dol.gov](mailto:biedenbach.sharon@dol.gov)

A New Council is forming in Manchester NH



The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association State Council for New Hampshire named "Granite State Council" was formed by Maria Cummings of the DOL-MSHA office in New Hampshire. James Petrie the Northeast District Manager (right) and Robert Dow Jr., Supervisory Inspector (left) of Manchester, NH presented the plaque to Cummings on behalf of making the continuing effort of safety at work through communication between compliance officials, operators, vendors and all industry participants. The council will officially welcome members at Spring Thaw 2009.

Check this web site for your local Holmes meeting <http://www.holmessafety.org>
Under Go To click on Councils and look for your area.

2009 Safety Events Calendar

Have your company share in Safety!

January

National Radon Action Month

February

Aggressive Driving Month
Workplace Eye Safety Month

Feb. 1-7 Burn Awareness Week

Feb. 13-19 National Child Passenger Safety Week

March

Save Your Vision Month
Sports Eye Safety Month
Poison Prevention Month

Mar. 8-14 Patient Safety Awareness Week

Mar. 15-21 Inhalants & Poisons Awareness Week

Mar. 23-27 Youth Violence Prevention Week

April

Facial Protection Month
Sexual Assault Awareness Month
Train Safety Awareness Month
Women's Eye Health & Safety Month
Youth Sports Safety Month

Apr. 6-10 National Work Zone Awareness Week

Apr. 6-12 National Public Health Week

Apr. 6-11 National Window Safety Week

Apr. 21-25 National Playground Safety Week

Apr. 22 Earth Day

May

Clean Air Month
National Electrical Safety Month
Melanoma & Skin Cancer Prevention Month
National Motorcycle Month

May 3-9 National SAFE Kids Week

May 4-10 North American Occupational Safety and Health Week

May 6 Occupational Safety & Health Professionals Day

May 6-12 Food Allergy Awareness Week

May 11-17 National Building Safety Week

May 16-22 National Safe Boating Week

May 17-23 National Emergency Medical Services Week

May 18-22 Buckle Up! America Week

May 23-June 5 Click It or Ticket Mobilization Week.

June

Fireworks Safety Month
Home Safety Month
National Safety Month

Jun. 26-Jul 4 Eye Safety Awareness Week

July

Fireworks Safety Month
UV Safety Month

August

Aug. 4 National Night Out Against Crime

September

Children's Eye Health & Safety Month
Food Safety Education Month
Home & Sports Eye Safety Month
National Preparedness Month

Sept. 1-7 Child Injury Protection Week

Sept. 20-26 National Farm Safety & Health Week

October

Auto Battery Safety Month
Crime Prevention Month
Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Halloween Safety Month

Oct. 6-12 Fire Prevention Week

Oct. 5-11 Drive Safely to Work Week

Oct. 10 Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

Oct. 18-24 National Radon Action Week

November

Nov. 1-7 Marcus' Safe Birthday Week

Nov. 26-Dec. 31 Tie One On For Safety Campaign (Red Ribbon)

December

Drunk & Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month
Safe Toys and Celebrations Month

Dec. 6-12 Hand Washing Awareness Week

For copies <http://www.msha.gov/DISTRICT/MNM/NEDIST/NEHOME.HTM> For comments: park.bret@dol.gov or call (724-772-2334)