

Metal and Nonmetal Quarterly



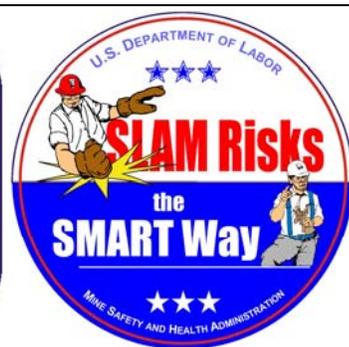
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Lazy Days



of Summer



MSHA Launches New Safety and Health Initiative

ARLINGTON, Va.-July 13, 2005

The U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) today launched "Make the Right Decision," a safety and health initiative that helps miners and mine operators to focus on human factors, such as decision-making, when at work. The campaign encourages miners and mine management to work together on safety and health issues.

"MSHA will increase its focus on safety decisions during this campaign, which is not a limited-time initiative," said David G. Dye, deputy assistant secretary of labor for mine safety and health. "We want miners and management to make the right decisions to ensure the safety and health of America's miners."

Through "Make the Right Decision," miners and mine management will receive tools to help them recognize hazards and take appropriate action to correct or avoid risks. As part of the educational initiative, MSHA officials will conduct safety talks with miners and mine operators at mine sites nationwide and distribute posters, stickers and fliers with campaign messages.

Agency representatives plan to incorporate two programs in the

"Make-the-Right-Decision" campaign. The first program is SLAM, an acronym for stop, look, analyze and manage. The second is SMART, an acronym for stop, measure, act, review and train. Together, these programs address the spectrum of safety decisions made in the mining workplace, from risk assessment at the miner level to risk management at the operator level.

MSHA's enhanced safety push also will reach out to mining industry contractors. Contractor deaths constitute a disproportionate number of the fatal accidents in the mining industry, and MSHA officials will increase efforts to help contractors improve their safety and health programs.

The safety campaign complements MSHA's ongoing efforts to help mining operations comply with and better understand federal mining laws and regulations and includes assistance from officials of the MSHA Small Mines Office for those operations with fewer than five miners.

MSHA's primary mission is to ensure worker safety and health in the nation's mines. Information about "Make the Right Decision" can be viewed on the Internet at www.msha.gov.

Making the RIGHT Decision Using “SLAM Risks the SMART Way!” for Medium and Large Mines



The majority of fatal accidents have these common root causes

- Failure to identify hazards
- Failure to manage risks

SLAM Risks the SMART Way!

Miners:

- Stop** Think through the task
- Look** Identify the hazards for each job step
- Analyze** Determine if you have the proper knowledge, training, and tools
- Manage** Remove or control hazards and use proper equipment

Mine Operators:

- Stop** Isolate each step in a task and identify past and potential accidents, injuries, and violations.
- Measure** Evaluate the risks associated with the task and barriers that have allowed hazards to cause injuries
- Act** Implement controls to minimize or eliminate any hazards that make the risk unacceptable
- Review** Conduct frequent work site visits to observe work practices and audit accidents, injuries, and violations to identify root causes
- Train** Develop a human factor-based action plan and then involve and train the miners

Make the RIGHT Decision!

“Make the RIGHT Decision” is the name of a proactive outreach campaign to prevent mine accidents and illnesses. The outreach will officially begin on July 6th. MSHA research shows that a common factor in the majority of fatal accidents is risk management. This outreach will encourage the mining industry to consider human factor techniques and strategies in their safety and health management programs. MSHA will conduct a 90-day campaign that will provide additional tools to the miners and mine management which will help them:

- Recognize hazards and unacceptable risks.
- Take appropriate action to eliminate and/or mitigate hazards and unacceptable risks.

What do we want to accomplish with this outreach effort?

To provide the mines with additional strategies for risk management in order to enhance existing safety and health programs. At the completion of the 90-day campaign, MSHA will continue to be available to any company desiring additional help with their risk management program. We want to work together to send every miner home healthy and safe at the end of every shift each and every day.

How are we going to accomplish this?

- We will incorporate human factor, risk management techniques and strategies into our most effective initiatives.
- We will educate mine management and miners on the techniques that will improve the safety and health culture in the mining work place.
- We will educate mine management and miners on the new dynamic safety and health program, “SLAM Risks the SMART Way” and provide compliance assistance to willing operators who wish to establish SLAM Risks the SMART Way programs.

What is “SLAM Risks the SMART Way”?

- It is a program combining miner responsibility with management responsibility.
- SLAM is a process for miners. SLAM is an acronym that stands for Stop, Look, Analyze, and Manage. Miners do these four things before, during, and after a task.

- SMART is a process for management to enact that involves miners at all levels of the process. SMART is an acronym that stands for Stop, Measure, Act, Review, and Train. SMART incorporates engineering controls, administrative controls, and human factor safety and health techniques and strategies.

- The techniques used in SLAM Risks the SMART Way have been proven to reduce accidents and injuries by up to 50% in the first year that they are implemented.

Key Activities

- Beginning July 11th, inspectors will discuss the campaign and SLAM Risks the SMART Way at the mines. They will distribute stickers, flyers, posters, and pocket cards as well as give instruction on how each is to be used.
- Later this year, MSHA will conduct a webcast with industry officials to solicit feedback on the outreach campaign.



Making the RIGHT Decision “SLAM RISKS” For Small Mines

U.S. Department of Labor
Make the RIGHT Decision
Mine Safety and Health Administration



The majority of fatal accidents have these common root causes

- Failure to identify hazards
- Failure to manage risks

SLAM Risks!

Miners:

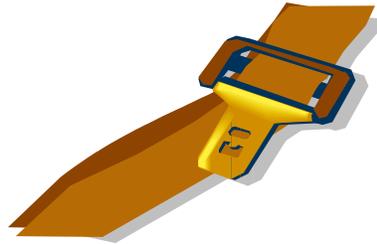
Stop	Think through the task.
Look	Identify the hazards for each job step
Analyze	Determine if you have the proper knowledge, training, and tools
Manage	Remove or control hazards and use proper equipment

★★★★★★★★

Small mines usually do not have management personnel at the mine site for the entire day. For this reason, MSHA has developed SLAM RISKS for small mines. SLAM RISKS for small mines educates the miners on risk assessment and risk management. It is simple to use and has been proven effective. MSHA personnel will be visiting the small mines during the 90 day (plus) safety outreach, in order to educate and promote the use of this safety tool. They will be handing out stickers and flyers to the miners and explaining risk assessment and risk management

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Saves Lives

A SEAT BELT SUCCESS STORY



Lanny Crowe pictured with his LULL forklift.

Lanny Crowe is an owner/operator with 23 years of mining experience. He was recently tramming the pictured 10K-54 LULL telescopic forklift along a two-lane Louisiana highway. Lanny had slowed down and pulled off the pavement to let two cars pass when he hit a washout in the shoulder of the road. As the forklift began to tip to his right, Lanny tried to leave the cab but instantly realized that he had instinctively buckled up – a result of his MSHA training and experience. Before he could respond further, Lanny found himself climbing out of the overturned forklift. He was uninjured and the machine was undamaged. However, Lanny did realize that had he jumped from the forklift, it probably would have been right into the path of the cars passing him.

History of Seatbelts

1901—The first automobile produced in quantity had no seatbelts.

1930's –Several U.S. physicians equip their own cars with lap belts and begin urging manufacturers to provide them in all new cars.

1953—Colorado State Medical Society publishes policy supporting installation of lap belts in all automobiles.

1954—American Medical Association House of Delegates votes to support installation of lap belts in all automobiles.

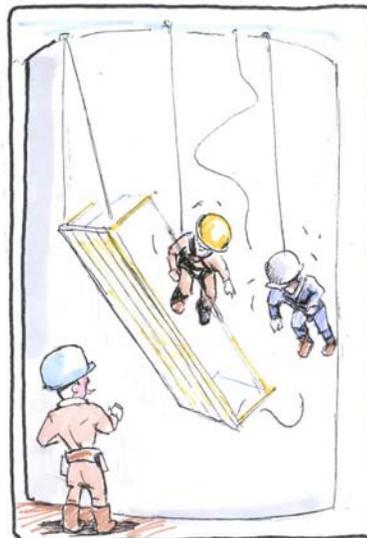
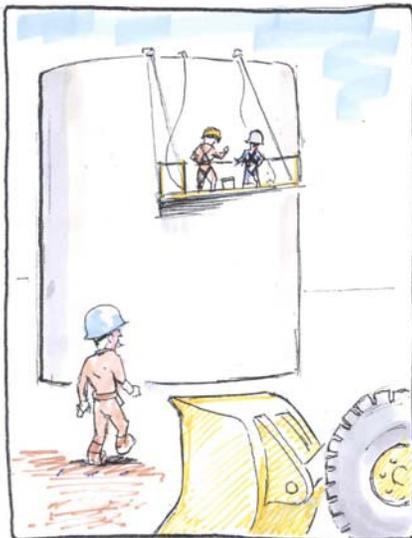
The Dinner Bucket

Fall Protection Saves Lives

This is the story of three miners that work together at a gold mine. Half-track is a maintenance man who can operate all kinds of mobile equipment and he is a skilled mechanic. Dino is a laborer. She helps other miners out all over the mine site. Sparky is an electrician. He conducts electrical work at the mine. Today Dino and Sparky are repairing damage done to an electrical box.



He conducts electrical work at the mine. Today Dino and Sparky are repairing damage done to an electrical box. This is the first time Dino has ever performed this task. Halftrack is operating a loader in the area. He spots Dino and Sparky and decides to stop, say hi, and chat for awhile. As Halftrack approaches them, an accident occurs!



Previous issues of the Metal and Nonmetal Quarterly are available on the MSHA website at www.msha.gov.



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