“Improving Your Pre-shift Inspection”

Safety and maintenance go hand in hand. Too often miners use a pre-shift inspection as a maintenance tool. There is a lost opportunity if this is not used to alert miners to impeding safety problems. Pre shifting a piece of equipment gives the miner a chance to observe, record and report even the smallest safety concerns.

Best Practices:

- Read and know the operator’s manual.
- Utilize a buddy system to check different safety features of that piece of equipment.
- Don’t hesitate to document any / all safety and maintenance concerns that may or may not be on the list.
- Follow-up procedure to insure that safety and maintenance concerns are addressed.
- Change the format of the pre shift report regularly in order to stop the procedure from being routine and allow enough space to document additional safety concerns.
- Inspect the entire piece of equipment as a safety item.
- Stress to your employees that the completion of your pre shift form is just as important as wearing your seat belt.

Pre shift inspections should be conducted like your life depends on it.

Developed in cooperation with:

Schoolhouse Mine Operations, Unimin Corp., Avery County, North Carolina (Team Leader)
Brewer Sand Mine, Hanson Aggregates, Chesterfield County, South Carolina
Elliott Sand & Gravel, Hanson Aggregates, Harnett County, North Carolina