Following ventilation changes, it is important to measure the air flow and direction in all areas affected by the ventilation change. A good practice to apply after a major air change is to assign a certified person to examine all of the affected areas for low airflow. This is especially important in areas where power centers and charging stations are located.

- **ALWAYS** maintain a minimum air velocity in any set of entries that would prevent smoke roll back in the event of a fire.
- **ALWAYS** utilize individuals who are trained and certified to evaluate the effects of a major ventilation change.
- **ALWAYS** mark and identify piping used for ventilating accumulations of methane to the returns, particularly in high spots on the haulage.
• ALWAYS park your vehicle outby high spots during haulage preshift examinations, and check for accumulations of methane before proceeding.

• AWAYS keep positive pressure in all stopping lines in entries designated smoke-free.

• ALWAYS understand the pressure relationship when cutting through or holing into previously mined areas and their effects on other areas of the mine.

• ALWAYS automate (when practical) ventilation devices used to control airflow where vehicles must travel to minimize damage to these controls.

• ALWAYS maintain airways free from obstructions which hinder effective ventilation.

• ALWAYS minimize recirculation to prevent mine gases from accumulating to dangerous levels.

• ALWAYS examine critical ventilation controls on a regular basis to ensure they are performing as intended.

• ALWAYS train mine rescue personnel to recognize the hazards associated with changing ventilation in a mine fire situation.

• ALWAYS remove power from completed panels and idle areas as soon as possible.

• Design Considerations

• ALWAYS consider maintaining a computer model of the mine’s ventilation system to evaluate air changes, fan outages and potential fire situations.

• ALWAYS design and install ventilation controls to service their intended function and minimize leakage.

• ALWAYS consider methane liberation from other areas of the mine in addition to the working face. Examples include: virgin ribs, gob areas, old works, etc.

• ALWAYS consider air migration between mines in multiple seam applications.

• ALWAYS consider mounting a pressure measuring device at key regulators to quickly determine changes in the mine’s ventilation system.

• ALWAYS consider electrical installation locations to minimize the use of pipe overcasts.

• ALWAYS train key mine personnel in the use and understanding of the equipment used in making ventilation measurements.

• NEVER use the fan explosion doors to gain access to the mine without creating an airlock for this purpose.

• NEVER assume that the proper adjustments have been made following a change in ventilation.

• NEVER restore power to an area where the ventilation has been changed without a thorough examination.

• NEVER make changes to the ventilation during a mine fire that could adversely affect miners inby.