

**AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING AN ALLIANCE
BETWEEN
THE MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AND
THE INSTITUTE OF MAKERS OF EXPLOSIVES**

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME) recognize the value of renewing a collaborative relationship to foster safer and more healthful working conditions at the Nation's mining operations.

MSHA and IME hereby renew their Alliance to provide mine industry personnel with information, guidance, and access to training materials that emphasize and advance the safe use of explosives. MSHA and IME will work cooperatively to:

- i. Promote explosives safety for the mining community.
- ii. Aid in identifying the scope of mine safety and health concerns and provide ways to proactively communicate those concerns to manufacturers of explosives and blasting materials that provide services at mine sites.
- iii. Leverage IME's explosives expertise to develop, distribute, and promote educational and safety training resources related to explosive and blasting materials.
- iv. Develop and disseminate best practices to stakeholders who use explosives and contract blasting services.
- v. Promote the distribution of MSHA Safety Alerts and other safety resources.
- vi. Promote IME participation in the development of appropriate safety resources.
- vii. Speak, exhibit, or appear at MSHA and IME conferences and other industry conferences or meetings attended by mine operators, explosives users, and contractors to promote the safe use of explosives and blasting materials.
- viii. Review final MSHA-provided accident reports and accident data involving materials and work practices within IME's scope.

MSHA will be represented by designated personnel from Technical Support, Mine Safety and Health Enforcement, and Educational Policy and Development, with other appropriate program areas providing support as needed. IME will be represented by designated personnel from IME staff, Board of Governors, Technical Committee, and MSHA Subcommittee, with other IME members providing support as needed.

Subject to each party's approval process, a team of representatives from both organizations will meet to define a plan of action, address working procedures, and identify the participants' roles and responsibilities. In addition, the team will meet at least once a year to track and share information on activities and results toward achieving the Alliance's goals.

IME is authorized, with MSHA's approval, to use the MSHA Alliance Program logo on documents, webpages, and other products related to or created under the Alliance for as long as the Alliance remains in effect and in accordance with MSHA's "Guidance on the Use of the Alliance Program Logo" on the MSHA Alliance Program [webpage](https://www.msha.gov/support-resources/alliances-mous) (<https://www.msha.gov/support-resources/alliances-mous>). In particular, the logo may not be used to give the appearance that an Alliance Program participant's or other website is part of MSHA's website. The logo must not be used for fundraising or lobbying efforts, or to imply that MSHA endorses a particular entity or its actions or products. Before the Alliance Program logo is used, MSHA and IME must approve all materials and products developed under this Alliance. When possible, all documents or other products bearing the logo must include the following statement:

This product was developed as part of the MSHA Alliance Program. It does not necessarily reflect MSHA's official views. Use of the Alliance Program logo is reserved for MSHA and its active Alliance partners. The MSHA Alliance Program promotes miner safety and health through voluntary partnerships that provide training and education, outreach, technical assistance, and a national dialogue on mine safety and health. For more information, visit the MSHA Alliance Program [webpage](https://www.msha.gov/support-resources/alliances-mous) (<https://www.msha.gov/support-resources/alliances-mous>).

MSHA and IME will provide all services, products, and resources related to or created under this Alliance without reimbursement from the other party.



This Alliance creates no private right of action against the Federal Government or IME. This Alliance creates no rights in any third party.

This Alliance is subject to the availability of funds. This agreement will not be construed as obligating funds. Nothing in this agreement obligates MSHA to expend appropriations or enter into any contract or other obligations.

Nothing in this Alliance shall limit, supersede, or otherwise affect MSHA's normal operations or decisions in carrying out its statutory or regulatory duties. This Alliance does not limit or restrict the parties from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other entities. This Alliance also does not limit or restrict the parties from taking any other necessary action.

The legal authorities for this Alliance are 30 U.S.C. §§ 952(a)-(c)(1) and 962.

Unless otherwise extended, this agreement will remain in effect for three (3) years. Either signatory may terminate it for any reason at any time, provided they give 30 days' written notice. This agreement may be modified at any time with the concurrence of both signatories.

	
Wayne D. Palmer Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health Administration	J. Clark Mica President Institute of Makers of Explosives
Date: <i>May 5, 2026</i>	Date: <i>5/5/26</i>