



Safety Committee Report

September 5, 2019

Cotton Jarrell
Safety Committee Chair

Safety/Health Alerts



- **Fire Safety Alert – Surface Mine Equipment**
 - MSHA has documented nine equipment fires involving Hitachi excavators and shovels; Caterpillar haul trucks, front end loaders and dozers.
- 3M Fall Protection announces an immediate stop use and product recall of the **3M™ DBI-SALA® Nano-Lok™ edge and Wrap Back Twin-Leg Self Retracting Lifelines.**

Close Call/Serious Accident



- **Surface Iron Ore – April 29, 2019**
 - A miner suffered minor injuries when his haul truck traveled over the edge of a stock pile dump point causing the truck to roll onto its top. The driver was wearing a seat belt.
- **Surface Crushed Marble – June 17, 2019**
 - A front-end loader backed over a highwall, and the fall projected material from the loader bucket through the windshield. The operator was able to climb out of the cab and only suffered minor injuries. The operator was wearing a seat belt.

MSHA Special Initiatives



- **Fire Suppression Systems**

- Hand in hand with the Fire Safety Alert
- inspectors conducting extensive inspections of systems

- **Powered Haulage Safety**

- Accounts for approximately half of all U.S mining fatalities – 13 of 27 in 2018
- Power Haulage includes mobile equipment, conveyor systems, and anything else under power that hauls people or materials.
- MSHA has made the prevention of Powered Haulage accidents a priority!
 - Initial focus will be on **mobile equipment at surface mines, seat belt usage and conveyor belt safety**

Upcoming Events



- 2019 National Mine Rescue, First Aid, Bench and pre-shift Contest
 - September 23 – 26
- 2019 National Coalition of Black Lung & Respiratory Disease Clinics Conference
 - September 25 – 27
- Training Resources Applied to Mining (TRAM) Annual Conference
 - October 15 – 17 National Mine Health and Safety Academy
- 15th Annual Joint Western Regional Mine Safety and Health Conference
 - October 21 – 23

Health Issues Related to Mine Dust



- <https://www.cdc.gov/nora/councils/resp/FacesCOPD.html>
- [NORA homepage](#)
- [NORA Respiratory Health Council page](#)
- 75% of all Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease cases are related to smoking
 - COPD is an umbrella term used to describe progressive lung diseases
 - Emphysema, Chronic Bronchitis and Refractory Asthma



Medical Surveillance

- **NIOSH Western Swing**
 - Huge Success – Over 2,000 miners screened
 - NM-588 UT-359 WY-359 CO-309 AZ-219 MT-115 ND-53
- **MCMC Mobile Outreach will travel to surrounding states**
- **X-Ray**
 - Early issues with lungs
- **Spirometry – Lung Capacity**
 - Reduced lung capacity
 - Reduced Mobility
 - Increased Abdominal Obesity
 - Increased Diabetes
 - Reduced Oxygenated blood to the brain
 - Increase in Dementia and Alzheimer's

2019 Mining Fatalities

- Coal – 8
- M/NM – 8
- 8 Contractors





New Mexico Mining Association