Atlantic Alliance Meeting
April 21, 2007
National Awards
Industry

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Session 6
NSSGA Awards for Excellence Program

• Awards recognize excellence at operations in the following areas:
  – Community Relations
  – Environmental Stewardship
  – Safety and Health Performance of Individual Mine Sites
  – Safety and Health Performance of Corporations
NSSGA Awards for Excellence Program

• Gold winners in more than one area receive top “stars of excellence” honors
• Individual Awards
  – James M. Christie Safety and Health Professional
  – Environmental Leadership
• Awards are distributed during annual ESH Forum and/or Convention
NSSGA Awards
for Excellence Program

- Awards are designed to encourage competition, ingenuity, and promote superior performance in the areas of environment, safety, and community relations.
- NSSGA is considering a “sustainability” award in 2008.
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National Awards

Government

Robert M. Friend

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health

Arlington, VA USA
The South Central District really broke new ground with the concept of Industry Partnerships.

We Believe in ZERO

Alone one person can accomplish some things. Together we can change culture and achieve ZERO accidents in the mining industry.
A top priority

The successful balance

A healthy culture
Recognized by MSHA for Working 3 Years with No Violations
Stop before you undertake your next task.
Think about the risks you may encounter.
Observe the hazards all around yourself.
Proceed with considered care and attention.

Portland Plant & Quarry
In 1916, The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association was formed by twenty-four leading national organizations. It was named after Dr. Joseph A. Holmes, a mining safety pioneer and the first director of the U.S. Bureau of Mines.

In the 1920's the Association began to organize local chapters throughout the U.S., and named the new national organization the Holmes Safety Association. These two organizations merged in 1999 to form the unified Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association.

The Holmes Safety Association consists of a national council, state councils, district councils, and local chapters. The chapters are made up of Holmes members at a single organization, for instance a mine or a supply company.

The Association's objectives are to prevent fatalities and injuries and to improve health and safety among officials and employees in all phases of mining. These objectives guide and inspire all of the Association's activities.
• Holmes Safety has 8 State Councils

• Over 100 District Councils

• Over 8,600 Chapter Members to its credit.
Heroism
Acts of heroism and issuing awards were one of the original purposes of the Association, and used to constitute the major activity of the organization. The Hero awards have been awarded on an annual basis since 1919. In a number of instances, the persons performing these heroic acts have lost their lives in attempting to save the life of a fellow miner.

**Type A-1 awards for acts of heroism**
These awards for personal heroism and for distinguished services in the saving of a life are given regardless of whether the act was performed in the line of duty or elsewhere by an active or inactive employee of any branch of mining, quarrying, and mineral industries. The awards are medals, with Medal of Honor Certificates and Certificates of Honor.

The committee may also recommend awards for individuals who commit heroic acts while temporarily associated with the mineral extractive industries. Applications must be submitted within two years of the date the incident occurred.

Individuals involved in a group action who displayed extraordinary courage may be singled out for a Medal of Honor Award with the others receiving Certificates of Honor.

**Medal of Honor** Awards are given for any one or combination of the following actions:
- In the performance of an act to save life, the individual loses his or her own life.
- In the performance of an act, the individual seriously risks his or her own life, but saves the lives of one or more persons.
- Attempting at serious risk of his or her own life to save the life of one or more persons without success.

**Certificates of Honor** are given for any one or combination of the following actions:
- Assisting in saving a life, at some personal risk, while working under the direction of another person.
- Removing or assisting in removing the subject from an electrified circuit at some personal risk.
- Exhibiting skill in modern lifesaving methods and practices in an effort to save life while also taking some personal risk.
- Giving warning at personal risk of impending danger to others.
- Directing individuals to a place of safety while exposed to some personal danger.
- Staying at his or her post of duty in presence of impending danger to self and others.
- Assisting with others collectively at personal risk to save the lives of one or more persons.
- The work of trained mine rescue teams does not normally constitute eligibility for Type A awards. Extraordinary cases will receive consideration.
Type "A-2" Awards--for Life Savers
This award is given for saving or attempting to save a life using modern life saving techniques and/or quick and appropriate action in an attempt to save a life. No risk to the rescuer's own life is required. The recipient of this award receives a Life Savers Certificate.

• The act may occur in the line of duty or elsewhere by an active or inactive employee of any branch of the mining or related industries. Individuals who are temporarily associated with the mining and related industries may also be eligible.
• The act would have to be documented and submitted to the Association’s National Council within two years after the occurrence.
• The act would consist of one or more of the following actions:
  • Performing mouth to mouth or some other type of artificial ventilation.
  • Performing CPR.
  • Performing an anti choking maneuver.
  • Performing other life saving first aid techniques.
  • The performance of an act involving quick thinking and decision making that prevents others from being seriously injured or prevents the loss of additional life.
• The work of trained mine rescue teams, ambulance attendants, or professional health personnel would not normally be eligible for this award. Extraordinary cases will receive consideration.

Type "B-1" Awards--for Individual Workers
Eligibility for this award requires a minimum of 40 years of cumulative work experience in the mining and related industries without incurring an injury that resulted in lost workdays. This experience does not include clerical or office work. Applications for retired persons are also accepted within two years after their retirement date.
Past recipients are eligible for a subsequent award when they have added five or more years to their previous work record without incurring an injury with lost workdays.
**Type "B-2" Awards--for Individual Officials (for Record of Group Working Under Their Supervision)**

Supervisors are eligible for this award if their crews have achieved a safety record of no lost time accidents with 250,000 work hours underground or 350,000 work hours on the surface. When a work group achieves the required number of work hours without incurring a lost workday injury and there have been two or more supervisors during that work record, the work unit may be recognized in lieu of the supervisor. The Association gives only one award for a single record. Two individuals at two different levels of supervision cannot receive an award for the same cited work group record. However, the Association will consider additional awards for individuals who exceed their previous records by 50,000 work hours or more. The Association will also consider lower man hour achievements if the record spans more than 5 years. The Association recognizes safety records greater than 20 years without regard to work hour totals.

**Type "C-1" Awards--Mines/Companies/Organizations**

This award recognizes good safety records of companies, safety organizations, mines, quarries, groups of mines or plants (when the grouping includes all the mines or plants in the area or district), and any operating department, except clerical (office). Records must be compiled in the mining and related industries to qualify for this group award. Any operation from extracting the mineral to casting of a metal is eligible. This does not, however, include records in any manufacturing operations. All operations that extract crude oil and natural gas or refine petroleum products are eligible. Petrochemical processing operations are not eligible. At mineral processing plants (such as phosphate, cement, or lime plants), all concentrating, crushing, washing, grinding, drying, and storing operations are eligible for this award.

The Association uses the following criteria in considering Type C-1 awards:

- A minimum of 4,000,000 work hours without a fatality or permanent total disability. The record must exceed six calendar months of operation.
- A minimum of 600,000 work hours without a lost workday injury. The record must exceed six calendar months of operation.
- For underground mines, the Association considers proposals that combine injury free records with fatal or permanent total disability records. When the fatal or permanent total disability record exceeds 3,000,000 work hours, the Association gives separate awards.
- The Association also recognizes improvements in injury rates, either incidence or severity measures or both. Award requirements involve steady, year after year improvement of rates over several years. The Association cannot consider improvements for one year compared to the previous year or average of several previous years.
Type "D-1" Special Awards (for Small Operators)

For a small operation to accumulate the number of work hours required for an award under the Type C 1 criteria, it would take, in some cases, a time period in excess of the operation's life. To allow smaller operations more timely recognition for their safety efforts, the Association established a reduced number of work hours for operators with 25 or less employees.

The recipients of these awards receive Certificates of Honor. The following criteria applies:
- A minimum of 100,000 work hours without a fatality or permanent total disability. The record must exceed six calendar months of operation.
- A minimum of 50,000 work hours without a lost workday injury. The record must exceed six calendar months of operation.