

News Release



U.S. Department of Labor
Office of Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
Release Number: 07-1440-NAT

For Immediate Release
Sept. 19, 2007
Contact: Matthew Faraci
Phone: (202) 693-9406

U.S. Department of Labor's MSHA and National Mining Association recognize 19 mining operations as 'Sentinels of Safety' *Operations in Georgia and Missouri take awards for third year in a row*

ARLINGTON, Va. – Nineteen mining operations have been recognized for outstanding 2006 safety records in the annual Sentinels of Safety awards program jointly sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the National Mining Association.

For the third year in a row, J.M. Huber Corp.'s Sandersville Mill of Sandersville, Ga., and Mississippi Lime Co.'s Peerless Mine of Sainte Genevieve, Mo., have won the safety award in their respective categories.

Mining companies in various operational categories were recognized for achieving the greatest number of employee work hours in 2006 without a fatal injury or an injury that resulted in lost workdays. To qualify, a company was required to compile at least 4,000 employee work hours during the year. This year's 19 winners worked a combined total of almost 2.7 million hours in 2006 without a lost-time injury.

"Showcasing examples of good safety programs is very important," said Richard E. Stickler, assistant secretary of labor for MSHA. "Such recognition encourages safe operations to continue their best practices and shows the rest of the mining industry that it is indeed possible to run safe mining operations every day of the year."

Stickler addressed representatives from the winning companies during an awards ceremony today in Washington.

The Sentinels of Safety award is the oldest established award for occupational safety. The first one was announced by President Herbert Hoover – a former mining engineer – when he was Secretary of Commerce in 1925. The annual safety competition has continued to this day.

Competition winners and mining operations recognized for their safety records in 2006 are listed on the Web at www.msha.gov/SentinelsofSafety/Awards/2007Sentinel/2007sentinelsofsafety.asp.

###

U.S. Department of Labor releases are accessible on the Internet at www.dol.gov. The information in this news release will be made available in alternate format (large print, Braille, audio tape or disc) from the COAST office upon request. Please specify which news release when placing your request at (202) 693-7828 or TTY (202) 693-7755. The Labor Department is committed to providing America's employers and employees with easy access to understandable information on how to comply with its laws and regulations. For more information, please visit www.dol.gov/compliance.

2006 Sentinels of Safety Award Winners

First place winners and their numbers of consecutive employee hours recorded in each of the sponsored mining categories are as follows:

Large Underground Coal Group

Burke Branch Tipple, Premier Elkhorn Coal Company, Myra, KY, 151,970 hours

Small Underground Coal Group

Abundance Coal, Inc., Abundance Coal, Inc., Kite, KY, 56,665 hours

Large Surface Coal Group

Farmersburg Mine, Black Beauty Coal Company, Evansville & Pimento, IN, 539,695 hours

Small Coal Processing Facility Group

Columbiana Pits, Buckeye Industrial Mining Company, Lisbon, OH, 27,445 hours

Large Underground Metal Group

No winner

Small Underground Metal Group

K-2 Mine Site, Kinross Gold Corp Kettle River Operations, Republic, WA, 29254 hours

Large Underground Nonmetal Group

Peerless Mine, Mississippi Lime Company, Ste. Genevieve, MO, 279,812 hours

Small Underground Nonmetal Group

Lyons Salt Company, Lyons Salt Company, Lyons, KS, 42,070 hours

Large Open Pit Group

Boron Operations, US Borax, Inc., Boron, CA, 449,804 hours

Small Open Pit Group

Tumbledown Mine, Milwhite Inc., Van Horn, TX, 15,295 hours

Large Quarry Group

Tower Rock St Co St. Genevieve, Tower Rock Stone Company, Columbia, IL and Ste. Genevieve, MO , 229,549 hours

Small Quarry Group

Green Rock Company Inc #1, Green Rock Company, Inc., Alto, TX, 14,861 hours

Large Dredge Group

Briggs Plant, Fordyce, LTD, Victoria, TX, 272,424 hours

Small Dredge Group

Augusta Sand Mine, Rinker Materials of Florida Incorporated, Augusta and Grovetown,GA, 11,543 hours

Large Bank or Pit Group

Sloan Quarry #1001, Frehner Construction Company, Inc., North Las Vegas, NV, 218,341 hours

Small Bank or Pit Group

Northumberland Sand Plant, Central Builders Supply Company, Sunbury, PA, 10,029 hours

Large Metal Nonmetal Mill Group

Sandersville Mill, JM Huber Corp, Sandersville, GA, 306,219 hours

Small Metal Nonmetal Mill Group

Forks of the River Quarry, Rinker Materials South Central, Inc., Knoxville, TN, 26,635 hours

Other mining operations with exceptional safety records during 2006 included the following:

Large Underground Coal Group

Tusky, Rosebud Mining Company, Uhrichsville, OH, 96,454 hours

Mine #1, Enterprise Mining Company, Whitesburg, KY, 93,365 hours

Raven Mine #1, ICG Knott County, LLC, Kite, KY, 72,796 hours

Trace Fork, Enterprise Mining Company LLC, Whitesburg, KY, 71,818 hours

Small Underground Coal Group

Mine #1, D&C Mining Corp, Harlan County, KY, 47,382 hours

Band Mill Mine, Cumberland River Coal Company, Appalachia, VA, 44,705 hours

Parson #1, Cumberland River Coal Company, Letcher County, KY, 44,072 hours

Slone Branch, Ember Contracting Inc, Pippa Passes, KY, 36,004 hours

Tallmans Run Mine No. 1, Roblee Coal Company, Buckhannon, WV, 35,444 hours

Large Surface Coal Group

Somerville Central Mine, Black Beauty Coal Company, Gibson County, IN, 468,078 hours

Falkirk Mine, Falkirk Mining Company, Underwood, ND, 458,328 hours

Francisco Mine, Black Beauty Coal Company, Gibson County, IN, 374,241 hours

Red Hills Mine, Mississippi Lignite Mining Company, Ackerman, MS, 349,598 hours

Large Coal Processing Facility Group

Bevins Branch Preparation Plant, McCoy Elkhorn Coal Corp., Pike County, KY, 142,657 hours

Brooks Run Processing Plant No. 1, Brooks Run Mining Company LLC, Webster County, WV, 122,043 hours

Shade Creek Plant, PBC Coals Inc., Somerset County, PA, 121,538 hours

Prosperity Mine, Five Star Mining Inc., Pike County, IN, 113,271 hours

Small Coal Processing Facility Group

Riola Mine Complex-Vermilion Grove Porta, Black Beauty Coal Company, Vermilion County, IL, 25,882 hours

JWR #3, Covol Engineered Fuels LC, Adger, AL, 25,673 hours

EPB Strip, E P Bender Coal Company, Carrolltown, PA, 25,566 hours

Smith Branch Plant, DTE Smith Branch LLC, Pineville, WV, 24,859 hours

Small Underground Metal Group

Gold Wedge Project, Manhattan Mining Company, Nye County, NV, 15,980 hours

Discovery Day Mine, Merendon Mining (California) Inc., Siskiyou County, CA, 14,177 hours

Bunker Hill Mine, Placer Mining Corporation, Shosone County, ID, 12,180 hours

Resolution Mine, Resolution Copper Mining LLC, Pinal County, AZ, 8,037 hours

Large Underground Nonmetal Group

Detroit Salt Mine, The Detroit Salt Co. LLC, Wayne County, MI, 103,984 hours

Coolspring Mine, Coolspring Stone Supply Inc., Fayette County, PA , 80440 hours

Whitney Plant (UG), Hanson Aggregates PMA INC, Westmoreland County, PA, 64,916 hours

Lemont Underground, Vulcan Materials Company, Will County, IL , 61,363 hours

Small Underground Nonmetal Group

Mine #1, D & C Mining Corp., Harlan County, KY, 47,382 hours

Band Mill Mine, Cumberland River Coal Company, Wise County, VA, 44,705 hours

Parson #1, Cumberland River Coal Co Inc, Letcher County, KY, 44,072 hours

Slone Branch, Ember Contracting Inc, Knott County, KY, 36,004 hours

Tallmans Run Mine No. 1, Roblee Coal Company, Barbour County, WV, 35,444 hours

Large Open Pit Group

Ruby Hill Mine, Homestake Mining Company of CA, Eureka County, NV, 159,231 hours

Phelps Dodge Miami Inc, Phelps Dodge Miami Inc, Gila County, AZ, 135,519 hours

Vernal Pit & Mill, Simplot Phosphates, LLC, Vernal, UT, 126,057 hours

Du Pont Florida Mine & Plant, E I DuPont De NeMours & Co Inc, Clay County, FL 124,687 hours

Small Open Pit Group

No Agua Mine & Mill, Harborlite Corporation, Taos County, NM, 15,229 hours

L R Chapman Inc, L R. Chapman Inc., Hancock County, KY, 14,785 hours

Lewis Mine, NYCO Minerals Inc, Essex County, NY, 14,741 hours

Kingman Turquoise Mining Co, Kingman Turquoise Mining, Mojave County, AZ, 14,559 hours

Large Quarry Group

Three Rivers Quarry, Martin Marietta Materials Inc, Livingston County, KY, 180,492 hours

Miami Quarry, Florida Rock Industries Inc, Dade County, Fl, 125,046 hours

East Quarry, APAC-Oklahoma Inc., Tulsa County, OK, 112,517 hours

Helotes Quarry, Vulcan Construction Mats. LP, Bexar County, TX, 109,413 hours

Small Quarry Group

Rinker Materials Malpie Quarry, Rinker Materials Western Inc, Union County, NM, 14,801 hours
Oxford Quarry Plant #8, John S Lane & Son Inc, Worcester County, MA, 14,779 hours
Toccoa Quarry, Hanson Aggregates Southeast, Inc., Toccoa, GA, 14,658 hours
Hermitage Quarry, Vulcan Construction Materials LP, Davidson County, TN, 14,640 hours
Harris Quarry, Northern Aggregates Inc, Mendocino County, CA, 14,636 hours

Large Dredge Group

Twelve Oaks Pit, Huey Stockstill Inc, Picayune, MS, 92,338 hours
Avant Mine, Georgia Industrial Minerals, Inc, Washington County, GA, 71,273 hours
Plant 1, Southern Aggregates LLC, St. Helena County, LA, 63,583 hours
Sorter's Road Sand and Gravel, Sunrise Materials, Porter, TX, 61,641 hours

Small Dredge Group

Harrin Mine, Harrin Sand & Gravel, Inc., Buncombe County, NC, 11,240 hours
Sahara Sand of Franklin, Sahara Sand Inc., Gloucester County, NJ, 11,004 hours
Logan #1, Cimarron Sand Company LLC, Logan County, OK, 10,950 hours
Grace D, Capital Sand Company Inc., Cole County, MO, 10,923 hours

Large Bank or Pit Group

Schoolhouse Quartz Plant, Unimin Corporation, Avery County, NC, 218,341 hours
Sun Valley Plant, Calmat Co., Los Angeles, CA, 136,761 hours
Beck Quarry, Valley Caliche Products, Inc., Hidalgo County, TX, 125,330 hours
Shower's Plant, Fordyce Company, Montgomery County, TX, 114,567 hours

Small Bank or Pit Group

Slate Hill Sand & Gravel, E. Tetz & sons, Inc, Orange County, NY, 10,012 hours
Portable Crusher Unit, Burdick Paving, Duchesne County, UT, 9,987 hours
Smithfield Peat, Smithfield Peat Co., Inc., Smithfield, RI, 9,986 hours
Reith-Riley Materials, Reith-Riley Construction Company, Morgan County, IN, 9,982 hours

Large Metal Nonmetal Mill Group

Toddsville Plant, BASF Catalysts LLC, Wilkinson County, GA, 255,371 hours
The Monarch Cement Company, The Monarch Cement Company, Allen County, KS, 222,819 hours
Hunter Quarry, Colorado Materials LTD, Comal County, TX, 188,512 hours
Balcones Plant, CEMEX Inc., Montgomery County, TX, 188,512 hours

Small Metal Nonmetal Mill Group

Dupo Plant #9, Columbia Quarry Company, St. Clair County, IL, 26,588 hours
Resco Products Inc Cedar Heights, Resco Products Inc, Jackson County, OH, 26,502 hours
Rabun Quarry, Vulcan Construction Materials LP, Rabun County, GA, 26,380 hours
Boone Quarries – East, con-Agg of MO LLC, Boone County, MO, 26,359 hours