Best Practices for Controlling Respirable Dust in Coal Mining

NIOSH’s Office of Mine Safety and Health Research and MSHA will co-host three (3) one-day workshops focusing on controlling respirable dust with practical control technologies and techniques.

Inhalation of excessive levels of respirable coal dust can cause Coal Workers’ Pneumoconiosis (CWP) and overexposure to respirable silica dust can lead to silicosis. Recent surveillance indicates the number of CWP cases is rising. These occupational lung diseases can be disabling or fatal in severe cases, but they can be prevented through limiting worker exposure.

Each workshop will inform attendees about the following topics:

- Health Consequences of Overexposure to Respirable Coal and Silica Dust (NIOSH)
- Sampling to Quantify Respirable Dust Generation (NIOSH)
- Controlling Respirable Dust on Longwall Mining Operations (NIOSH)
- Continuous Miner and Roof Bolter Dust Control (NIOSH)
- Dust Controls for Surface Mines (NIOSH)
- How to Correctly Determine the Dust Scrubber Air Quantity (MSHA)
- Proper Examination of Roof Bolter and Other Dust Control Systems (MSHA)

The workshop is intended for mine management and workers, mining engineers, safety and health professionals and others with an interest in preventing occupational lung disease. Each workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m.

NIOSH and MSHA are conducting this workshop at the following locations:

- **March 24, 2010 – Birmingham, AL** (Holiday Inn – Homewood, 492 Wildwood N. Circle, Birmingham, AL 35209, Ph. 205-942-6070)
- **April 21, 2010 – Evansville, IN** (Holiday Inn – Evansville Conference Center, 4101 Highway 41 North, Evansville, IN 47711, Ph. 812-424-6400)
- **June 2, 2010 – Grand Junction, CO** (Doubletree Hotel, 743 Horizon Drive, Grand Junction, CO 81506, Ph. 970-241-8888)

If you are interested in attending this workshop at one of these locations, please register by contacting either: Jay Colinet (NIOSH) by email: jcolinet@cdc.gov or phone: (412) 386-6825; or George Niewiadomski (MSHA) by email: niewiadomski.george@dol.gov; or phone: (202) 693-9513.