

# **Atlantic Alliance Meeting**

**April 20, 2007**

**MSHA State Grants**

**MSHA Academy**

**Robert M. Friend**

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*Mine Safety and Health*

*Arlington, VA USA*

# State Grant Program

- Under the State Grant Program, training is conducted in 49 states, the Navajo Nation and Puerto Rico.
- There was 8.2 Million dollars funded for State Grants in fiscal year 2007.
- On average the grantees train more than 200,000 miners and contractors each year.
- MSHA provides these funds for Miner Safety and Health Training. The grantees provide Annual Refresher Training, New Miner Training, and Newly Hired Experienced Miner Training to miners and contractors throughout the Nation.

# MSHA's New Hiring Process

- Review applications to determine if minimum qualification requirements are met; has applicant previously taken tests; is applicant on current referral list for advertised District.
- Send notification letters to applicants:
  - Applicants who have not previously passed exams are reserved seating for testing session.
  - Applicants who have previously passed exams are contacted and reserved specific date/time for interview.
  - Applicants who do not meet minimum qualification requirements are sent notification that they are not qualified.

# MSHA's New Hiring Process

- Conducting the job fair
  - Review applications from walk-in candidates to determine minimum qualification requirements.
  - Interview teams begin interviews in the morning for candidates that have previously passed exams.
  - OPM approved test administrator (Human Resources Specialist) administers math test.
  - Math tests graded by Human Resources (double-check required).
  - Human Resources Specialist administers writing test to candidates who have passed math – Candidates who failed math are notified and offered the opportunity to see their results.
  - Writing tests assessed by Administrative Staff and District/Field supervisors.
  - MSHA personnel discuss errors with candidates who fail the writing test.

# MSHA's New Hiring Process

- **FINALIZING RESULTS**
  - Review interview results to ensure proper documentation.
  - Determine each applicant's final ranking (Category 1, Category 2, Category 3, No Pass).
  - Adjudicate veterans preference for eligibles.
  - Prepare and issue Draft referral lists to District Office with copies of resumes within 24 hours.
  - Review draft referral lists for accuracy and issue final referral lists to District Office within 2 business days after returning from travel.
  - 2-4 weeks after job screening – notify applicants that were interviewed of results.

# National Mine Health and Safety Academy

1301 Airport Road  
Beaver, West Virginia 25813-9426

**The mission of the National Mine Health and Safety Academy is to;**

- Reduce accidents and improve health conditions in the mining industry through education and training.
- Conduct a variety of education and training programs in health and safety and related subjects for Federal mine inspectors and other government mining and industry personnel





**NATIONAL STONE, SAND & GRAVEL ASSOCIATION**



*Natural building blocks for quality of life*

Values

# Rip & Share



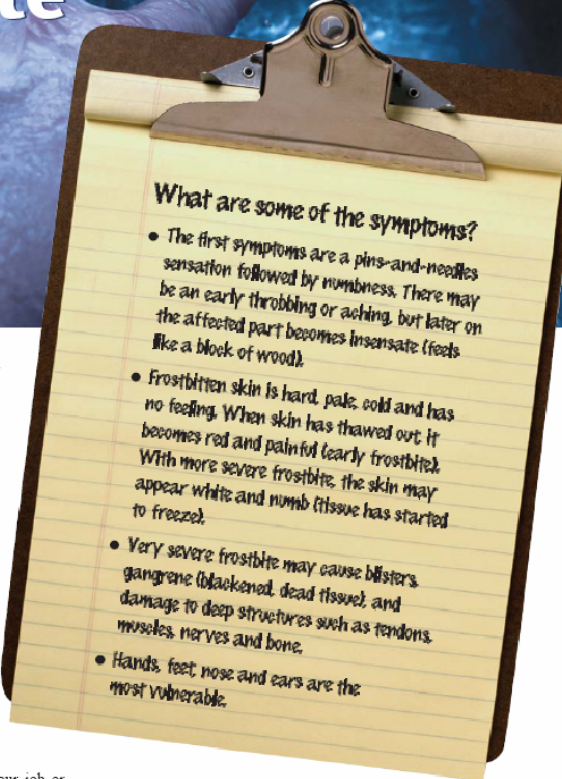
## PROTECT YOURSELF: Frostbite

### What is frostbite?

**A**s winter weather sets in, new sets of risks materialize for miners whose occupational duties place them within the harsh elements. One risk that one should be aware of is frostbite. Frostbite is an injury to the skin that occurs as a result of overexposure to cold weather. When frostbite sets in, the tissue around a certain area on the body has frozen. Cases are most common among soldiers, outdoor workers during the winter and participants in other prolonged outdoor activities such as sports. Another type of frostbite exists among mountain climbers and other high altitude exposure to the cold. This type of frostbite is a combination of tissue that has frozen as well as dehydration and hypoxia.

#### How can I protect myself?

- Know your risk level based on your job or living situation.
- If exposed to cold weather for prolonged periods of time, take frequent breaks indoors in a warm area.



#### What are some of the symptoms?

- The first symptoms are a pins-and-needles sensation followed by numbness. There may be an early throbbing or aching, but later on the affected part becomes insensate (feels like a block of wood).
- Frostbitten skin is hard, pale, cold and has no feeling. When skin has thawed out, it becomes red and painful (early frostbite). With more severe frostbite, the skin may appear white and numb (tissue has started to freeze).
- Very severe frostbite may cause blisters, gangrene (blackened, dead tissue), and damage to deep structures such as tendons, muscles, nerves and bone.
- Hands, feet, nose and ears are the most vulnerable.



## **NSSGA-MSHA Alliance**

### **Core Principles of a Safety Program**

The fundamental elements of a safety program that will help create an ideal culture in order to prevent accidents and injuries are:

#### **Front Line Management Leadership and Commitment**

- o *Senior Management & CEO/Owner Commitment*
- o *Safety Director Role*

#### **Training and Development**

#### **Formal Auditing of All Employee Work Practices**

#### **Employee Involvement & Participation**

- o *Job Safety Analysis*
- o *Safety Committees*

#### **Incident Investigation**

#### **Safety Communications**

- o *Alerts*
- o *Newsletters*

#### **Regulatory Compliance Programs**

#### **Operational Safety Best Practices**

#### **Recognition Program**

#### **Accountability System**

#### **Substance Abuse Prevention Program**

*The following pages will describe each of these elements and provide examples of how*

*they can be used to achieve better safety performance at your company.*

## MSHA/NSSGA Alliance Newsletter to Chief Executive Officers

As a follow-up to our inaugural MSHA/NSSGA Alliance newsletter, which you should have received electronically in January, this is the first in a series of newsletters that will be published every other month highlighting specific safety issues that may be of concern to your company.

In this issue, the leading contributors to injuries in the aggregates industry have been identified. In addition, we are providing you a simple checklist that your personnel can use to assist them in identifying the causes of incidents (near misses, accidents, and/or injuries) at your operations. They can then report these results back to you.

The following activities have been identified as leading contributors to injuries in the aggregates industry:

1. Slips, trips and falls
2. Manual materials handling
3. Electrical shock and arc flash  
(<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nas/mining/researchproject10.htm>)
4. Welding and cutting operations
5. Improper use of hand and power tools

We cannot achieve a 50% reduction in MSHA reportable injuries unless we take specific steps to address safety and behavior in each of these areas. As you may already know, the Safety Pledge ([http://www.nssga.org/pdf/safety\\_pledge.pdf](http://www.nssga.org/pdf/safety_pledge.pdf)) was a commitment made by members of NSSGA to reduce the number of MSHA reportable injuries by 50%, in 5 years. This commitment was made in 2003.

## Please take these steps to help NSSGA achieve the Safety Pledge:

- Ask your senior operating managers to identify action steps that will be taken in each area in order to demonstrate improvement in safety performance.
- Ask them to regularly report progress in carrying out these identified action steps.
- Ask them to regularly report injuries (or lack thereof) in each area to measure their safety performance.

The following is a “scorecard” to assist you in identifying and measuring your safety performance. [Click here](#) for a printable version of this scorecard.

### Manager Score Card

\_\_\_\_\_ (name)

| Type of Injuries               | Actions Taken | Total Injuries    |      |
|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|------|
|                                |               | 2007 Year to Date | 2006 |
| Slips, Trips, and Falls        |               |                   |      |
| Manual Materials Handling      |               |                   |      |
| Electrical Shock/Arc Flash     |               |                   |      |
| Welding and Cutting Operations |               |                   |      |
| Use of Power and Hand Tools    |               |                   |      |

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**MSHA/NSSGA Alliance,  
Computer Based Training**

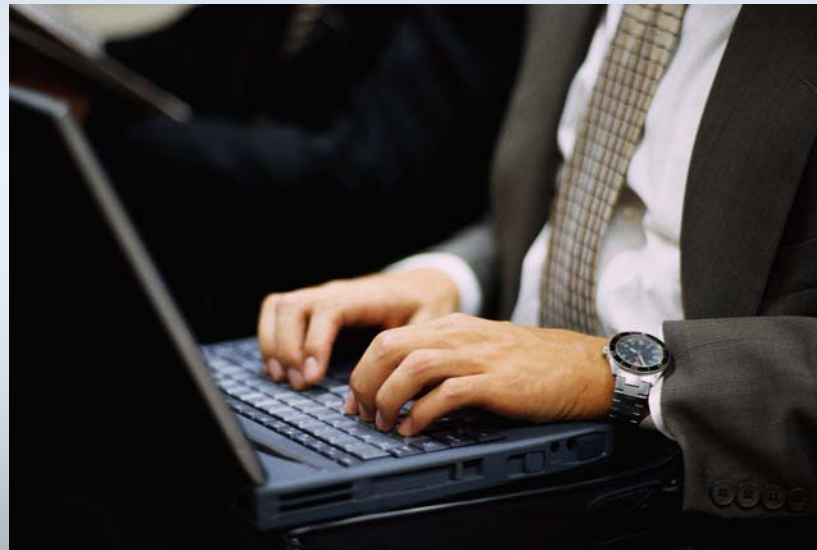
**Peter Ward**

*Corporate Safety Director*

*Hanson Building Materials America*

*Dallas, TX USA*

# Safety Site Manual



# **Towards Leadership in Safety & Health Management**

## **Texas City Refinery Baker Report Recommendations**

### **Ten Commandments for Executive Leadership?**

1. BP's executive management must provide effective leadership on -- and establish appropriate goals for -- process safety. They must articulate a clear message on the importance of safety and match it with policies and actions.
2. BP should create a system to identify, reduce and manage safety risk.
3. BP should create a system to ensure that staff from top management to refinery workers possess an appropriate level of process safety knowledge and expertise.
4. BP should involve relevant stakeholders to develop a positive, trusting and open safety culture within each U.S. refinery.

5. BP should define expectations and strengthen accountability for safety performance at all levels..
6. BP should provide more effective and better co-ordinated process safety support for the U.S. refining line organization.
7. BP should develop and maintain an integrated set of leading and lagging safety performance indicators to improve monitoring of the safety performance.
8. BP should create a system to audit safety performance at all U.S. refineries.
9. BP's Board should engage an independent monitor to report on BP's progress in applying these recommendations for at least five calendar years. BP should report publicly on the progress and safety performance.
10. BP should use the lessons learned from the Texas City explosion and the panel's report to transform the company into an industry leader in safety management.