

# 5<sup>th</sup> Atlantic Alliance Symposium Leesburg, Virginia



Louis Griesemer

President and CEO, Springfield Underground, Inc.

Co-Chair, MSHA-NSSGA Alliance

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**MSHA Assistant Secretary Dave Lauriski and National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association President Wilson, formalize an historic Alliance agreement between the two organizations that pledges together to reduce injuries and illnesses in the aggregates workplace.**

## **NSSGA Safety Pledge for Member Companies 2008**

As aggregate producers and suppliers to the industry, we join in a commitment to a culture that promotes our employees as our most valuable resource.

We believe that safety and health are core values. Our goal is to work with our miners to ensure they know how to recognize and prevent injuries and exposure to harmful substances in order to return home safely at the end of every shift.

To accomplish this, we will improve employee safety and health practices, ensure the amount and quality of formal employee training is appropriate, and advocate greater employee participation in the safety and health process.

We will continually enhance management's direct participation through personal example and leadership in all aspects of safety and health, specifically that of senior management, production and plant managers, field superintendents and supervisors.

By voluntarily signing this agreement, we demonstrate our commitment to a work environment designed to eliminate injury incidents, which will ultimately result in zero fatalities. With continuous improvement, our next industry-wide goal in this process will be to reduce the MSHA injury incidence rate 10% each year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL STONE, SAND & GRAVEL ASSOCIATION





*Natural building blocks for quality of life*



*An MSHA Cooperative Partnership*

## 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**
  - *Senior Management & CEO/Owner Commitment*
  - *Safety Director Role*
- ✓ **Training and Development**
- ✓ **Formal Auditing of All Employee Work Practices**
- ✓ **Employee Involvement & Participation**
  - *Job Safety Analysis*
  - *Safety Committees*
- ✓ **Incident Investigation**
- ✓ **Safety Communications**
  - *Alerts*
  - *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

NATIONAL STONE, SAND & GRAVEL ASSOCIATION



*Natural building blocks for quality of life*

In 2002, six months after the MSHA/NSSGA Alliance was created, the NSSGA Board of Directors endorsed a Safety Pledge for NSSGA member companies, the state aggregates associations and, indeed, any producers in the industry. The thrust of the pledge was to reduce the number of fatalities and accidents in the aggregates industry. In 2003, NSSGA reported that more than 90% of member companies' operations were covered by company CEOs who signed the pledge. Many companies also had their employee workforce individually sign the pledge and display at their plant sites. While the endorsement from NSSGA helped highlight the critical commitment of aggregates business leadership, and the number of incidents in the industry declined by more than 20% over five years, the reductions in total numbers of fatalities in our industry didn't decline as much as had been hoped for in the original pledge.

However, there is widespread agreement that challenging ourselves and the entire industry with an even greater goal is one of the most important paths to achievement. At the 2008 annual convention, the NSSGA Board of Directors adopted a revised [safety pledge](#) after it was thoroughly reviewed and approved by the Safety and Health Committee, the leadership of the Environment, Safety and Health Division and the Council of Counsel.

We send our regards as we continue to work together to move the industry to zero injuries and fatalities.

Louis Griesemer, President, Springfield  
Underground Felix Quintana, Administrator for  
Metal and Non Metal, U.S. Mine Safety & Health  
Administration Co-chairs of the MSHA/NSSGA  
Alliance

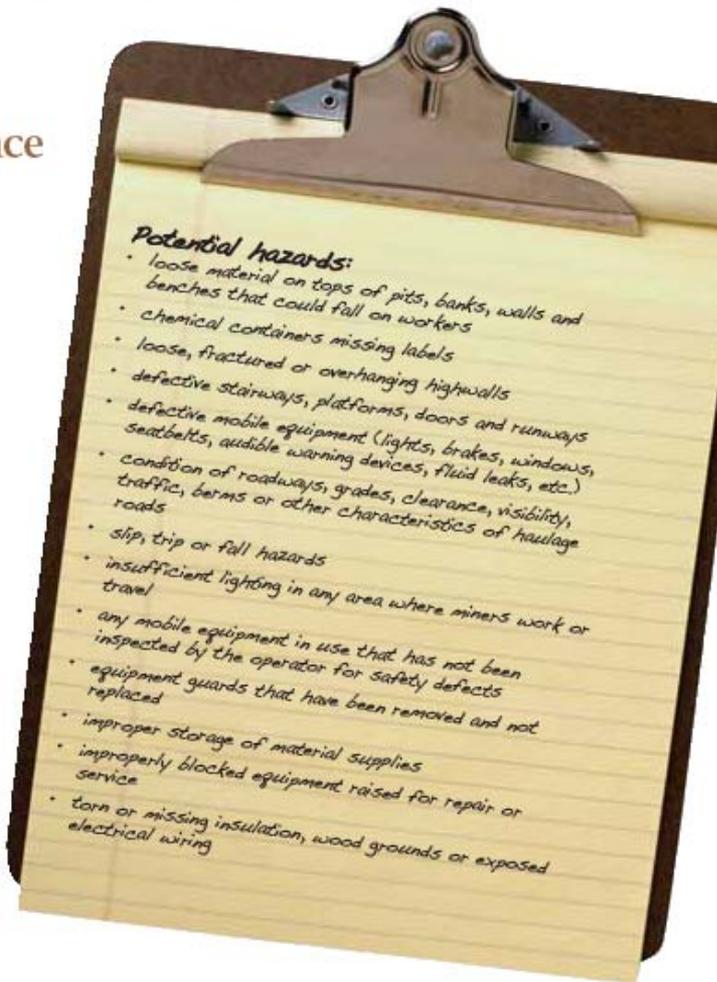


## RIP & SHARE SAFETY HANDOUT

### Check Up on Daily Workplace Exams

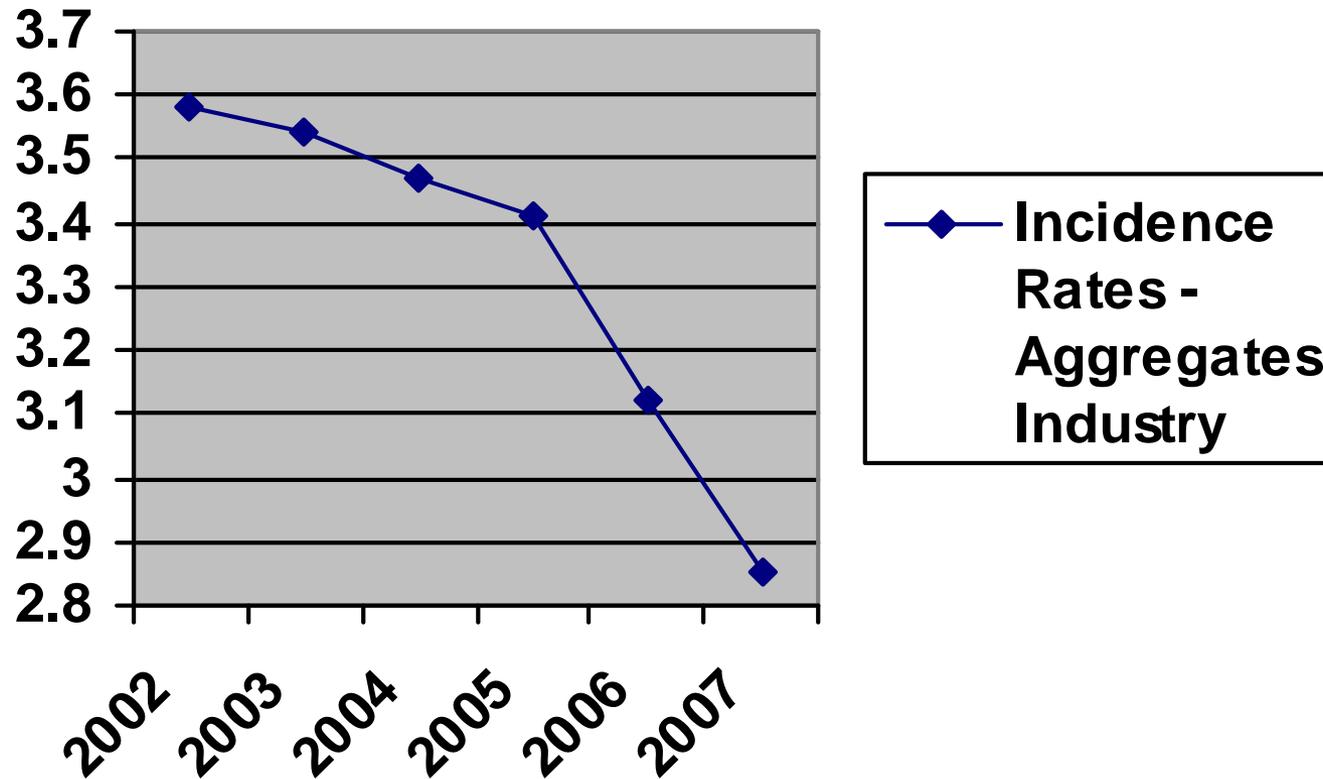
**D**oes your mine comply with safe operation standards pertaining to daily workplace examinations? The government provides rules for mine operators about how to examine work areas around mines for potentially hazardous conditions and how to keep records related to the examinations. When the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration inspector visits to determine if your safety practices are sufficient, rest assured that that person will review your records of daily workplace inspections.

To ensure that supervisors and managers are checking up on this aspect of safety before the MSHA inspector gets there and before a serious accident occurs, add it to your checklist of priorities. Verify that safety practices are being followed and that record keeping is up to date. The crux of the issue is that daily exams and record keeping are time consuming and tiresome and are overlooked when production is the number one priority. Don't step up safety practices only after a serious accident occurs and then let them fade quietly away again. Switch permanently; make safety number one.





# Our Industry Over the Last 6 Years



**Focus On  
Safety**



