

# DISTRICT 3 ACCIDENT AND INJURY PREVENTION INITIATIVE

# What are we asking you to do?

## Take the “Triple –S” Approach

- Step Up
- Speak Out
- Stand Firm, for Safety

# Quotations for Thought

- B.B King  
The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.  
  
Anonymous  
Any training that does not include the emotions, mind and body is incomplete; knowledge fades without feeling.  
  
Anonymous  
Just because you're trained for something doesn't mean you're prepared for it.  
  
Anonymous  
Training is useless unless you have a purpose, it's knowing for what purpose to train for that can break men's fulfillment.  
  
Mark Twain  
There is nothing training cannot do. Nothing is above its reach. It can turn bad morals to good; it can destroy bad principles and recreate good ones; it can lift men to angelship.  
  
Proverbs 28:19  
Where there is no vision, the people will perish; but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.  
  
William J. Rodriguez, Captain, USN  
If you are not pedaling, you are going downhill.

A black and white photograph of an iceberg floating in the ocean. The tip of the iceberg is visible above the water line, while the vast majority of the iceberg is submerged below the surface. The sky is overcast with clouds. The text is overlaid on the image, with the title at the top, the first level of text on the tip, the second level on the submerged part, and the third level at the bottom.

# **FATALITIES OR SERIOUS LOST TIME INJURIES**

**Incidents with potential to  
cause major accidents**

**Near Misses or close calls with “minor”  
consequences**

**Problems – risk based behavior, equipment reliability,  
unsafe conditions, excessive human error, poor design**

# ***MELTING THE ICEBERG***



- Accidents – Accident Investigation
- Incident – Incident Investigation and Self Reporting
- Near Misses – Self-Reporting
- Unsafe Conditions – Audits and Self Assessment

# Accident Analysis

- Reactive (investigation of accidents and incidents)
- Proactive (conduct audits and take action based on observations)
- Trending (using both reactive and proactive data)

# Where We've Been

- In the past 6 months (February 2, 2008 to August 2, 2008), District 3 has experienced
  - 2 fatalities
  - At least 5 other accidents which could have easily been fatalities
  - 34 accidents which have required the issuance of a 103(k) order

# 2 Fatalities

- Scoop accident
- Motor accident



# Five other serious accidents

- Miner received electrical burn
- Roof fall which hospitalized one miner
- Miner crushed between rib and cable handler
- Miner crushed between rib and rib protector
- Three miners struck with a scoop

# 34 Accidents Investigated

- Two fatal investigations
- Four roof falls where equipment was covered up
- Seven face ignitions
- One equipment fire on a dozer
- Three inundations

Where we are...

# In the past two months....

- Employee was standing on top of roof bolter trailing cable to help unwind the cable as the machine trammed forward, the cable pulled tight and caused employee to fall and EE hit his head on the bucket of a scoop car and lacerated his head
- As employee finished using his starter steel he began dropping the drill unit with the rotation on. He felt the steel bind as the bit cleared the plank; the bottom of the steel was broken which flew out striking him in the nose."
- "Employee was installing a roof bolt with an 8'x8' plate & a metal curtain hanger. In an effort to align the hanger he attached a nylon rope to it. When he applied rotation to the bolt his hand & arm became caught and twisted by the rotating roof bolt resulting in fractures to his left arm wrist ring and middle fingers as well as a laceration to the palm of his left hand"
- Longwall foreman was conducting his examination of the face when he was struck in the neck by a piece of steel that had splintered off of a cutter bit on the shear. The shear was operating in sandstone and he was approx 20' from the shear at the time of the accident.
- Hanging screen and bolting when a piece of rock fell between screen and struck employee on the nose.
- While running a miner a rock fell and struck his left leg.
- Employee was working under temporary roof support with posts set. Two rocks fell behind the employee and as he went to get away a larger rock fell on his back and pinned him to the ground face first."
- EE stated that he was working in the crusher building and cleaning off a 24' beam so that he could repair a hole in a chute. As he was doing this a piece of stone fell striking him on the left ear lobe."

# Where are we going?

- Currently, there are 18 mines with increasing NFDL incident rates.
- 19 mines are above the NFDL average
- Accidents reported by mine operators have increased from 363 to 668 (comparing 8/1/2006 – 8/1/2007 to 8/1/2007 – 8/1/2008).

# POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- We must address the problem as a team.
  - What can we (MSHA) do?
    - Inspectors will be addressing the adequacy of miner training.
    - Inspectors will be talking to miners about possible solutions.
    - Inspectors will be talking with miners one on one more frequently.
  - What can management and the miners do?
  - Everyone needs to be accountable.
  - Evaluate the seriousness of the accident, not just the end result.

# Some Interesting Comments

- “Miners have to be teachers while they are being coal miners”
- “Miners must look after miners”