



A publication of the
Oregon Independent Aggregate Association
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Oregon Independent Aggregate Association

Newsletter

August 2020

Chairman's Message

Strange times are in store as teachers, children, and parents get ready to start a new school year structured around keeping people safe from COVID-19. While there are a variety of plans being implemented by school districts and states, most teachers are very busy creating new programs and incorporating online content into their lessons.

If you know a teacher looking for earth science or mining-related information, I suggest pointing them to the Minerals Education Coalition (MEC; <https://mineralseducationcoalition.org/>). The MEC's goal is to provide accurate K-12 education materials and activities and conduct public awareness outreach about mining and minerals. Their website offers a treasure trove of presentation resources, videos, databases, and other tools. They also provide correlations for teachers to compare the MEC materials to education standards including Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core.

While working in the Midwest, I was involved in an annual teachers' workshop where we presented science and mining fundamentals, sample lessons, and in-class activities that teachers could use to educate their students about earth science, the uses of mined materials, mine planning, economics, and reclamation. Many teachers came to us after the workshop and expressed sincere appreciation for mining they did not previously have. Helping educators understand mining better has a direct impact on young minds and is key to helping society in general perceive the value of mining.

While in-class activities will be limited for the near future, other content through MEC could be valuable to teachers helping kids learn about earth resources.

Hope everyone is staying healthy and safe,

Erick Staley
Chairman

Safety Topics:



Fall Protection - Safety Alert

Recent Increase in Fall of Person Accidents

28 miners have died after falling from heights over the last 10 years.

Deaths from falls have increased from 8% to 19% of mining fatalities in the last two years.

Working without fall protection on top of trucks, in aerial lift baskets, and while accessing and egressing other mobile equipment

While performing maintenance on crushers, screens, conveyors, and other milling equipment

MSHA issued 92 imminent danger orders for people working at heights without fall protection between January 2019 and June 2020. The most common violations were truck drivers climbing atop their vehicles, and maintenance and quarry personnel climbing to or working without fall protection in high places.

Supervisors have been ordered down from dangerous locations.



A truck driver fell 9-1/2 feet while adjusting the tarp. He had climbed up the side of the truck into the bed and fell while walking on loose sand.



A miner fell 28 feet from an aerial lift basket. While he was wearing a fall protection harness it was not attached to the basket's anchor point.

Best Practices:

Reduce hazards. Design work areas and develop job tasks to minimize fall hazards.

Have a program. Establish an effective fall prevention and protection program. Provide task and site-specific hazard training that prohibits working at unprotected locations.

Provide a fall protection harness and lanyard to each miner who may work at an elevated height or a location unprotected by handrails. Ensure their use.

Provide identifiable, secure anchor points to attach lanyards.

Proactively enforce fall protection equipment usage and safe work-at-height policies and procedures with supervisors, miners, contractors, and truck drivers.

Provide mobile or stationary platforms or scaffolding at locations and on work projects where there is a risk of falling.

Provide safe truck tarping and bulk truck hatch access facilities.

A message from Dean Beam- Safepro

Just a warning about online training for miners under the 1977 mine act. Some of the problems mines and contractors are running into are online companies that are offering training without telling the mines or contractors they need a training plan before training is given, not giving the full training hours, not letting them know they must have a room with a competent person observing or close by to check on the training. Once the training is given and the customer finds out it is not up to the MSHA standards these online companies are not giving refunds.

Some of the problems Mines and contractors run into by using inadequate training if caught by MSHA is withdrawal of the miners or contractors from the site. Also, at least one citation will be issued for 104g withdrawal order plus accompanying citation for what every standard is broken.

Some online companies offer this product saying it is fully compliant; this is making a false statement. MSHA does not approve any product; it is up to the operator to ensure that training given is fully compliant with the 30 CFR standards.

Yours in safe production

Safepro inc.

The OIAA sponsored Part 46 Refresher Training is offered every March to all our members in good standing. The dates have already been selected and information will be available after the first of the year.

If anyone has any information they would like to share in next month's newsletter regarding how your business is doing thru these difficult times please let me know. Please send your email to me at memberreply@oraggreggate.com

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Due to COVID-19, we will be having our next board meeting via Zoom on September 23rd. As a member you are invited to attend, please let the OIAA secretary know if you are interested in participating and for further information.

memberreply@oraggregate.com

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy