



ASPASA AT WORK

Health & Safety

Health & Safety Bulletin

4th Edition - 2018

Introduction

This reported is tasked in providing broad overviews of the current and relevant activities and the work of the Health & Safety Committee and industry related matters relevant to ASPASA members.



12 June 2018 – Health & Safety Committee Meeting

RTF CLUSTER REPORT FOR QUARTER 4, ENDING MARCH 2018

Meetings scheduled but not attended by MHSC:

- **Cancelled** – the KZN South RTF was scheduled for the 8th of March 2018. The meeting did not take place to the interruption caused by the violent public services protest that took place around the Giba Gorge Conference Centre area. As a result of the protests, members of the RTF meeting were unable to get to the venue where the meeting was supposed to be held.
- **No MHSC representatives** – Limpopo Underground, NW Rustenburg, Eastern Cape, Western Cape and Namaqualand RTF meetings took place as scheduled, however there were no MHSC representatives. The chairpersons for the regions have agreed to send the Minutes and Registers.

Acknowledgement of performance in the RTF regions

Mpumalanga Hard Rock RFT – the knowledge and information Officer gave feedback on the progress of the MHSC RTF online portal, and announced that it is still in the piloting phase, and to expect a presentation once completed. The online portal is a knowledge space where information can be loaded online and downloaded for the sole purpose of sharing information.

- Members were redirected to the MHSC website under publications to access all the presentations done at the RTF's.

- The RTF chairman requested that MHSC provide an electronic copy of the milestones to all mines in the Mpumalanga region to display at the mines. A copy was immediately provided to Norplats Mine (host mine). The milestones are the commitments made by the tripartite stakeholders in an effort to achieve zero harm to mine workers.

The Mpumalanga Surface Mines and Quarries RTF – hosted and fully sponsored by Bureau Veritas Inspectorate Laboratories in terms of venue booking and catering. MHSC provided administrative support and rendered a presentation. There was a presentation done by the host, Bureau Veritas Inspectorate Laboratories, as well as the following:

- MHSC – TTK facilitator presented on MHSC's Culture Transformation Framework and its pillars namely; Risk Management, Data Management, Diversity Management, Leading Practice, Bonus and Performance Incentives.
- DMR Representative – gave an update on specific issues about the promulgation of new TMM Regulations around collision avoidance and hand held devices. He also updated the forum about the new requirements for GCC candidates regarding the annexure E modules that have to be completed before an acceptance letter is issued.
- Employer Representative from South 32 – presented on the uncontrolled detonation incident that occurred at the Wolvekrans Colliery.
- BME Representative – co-presented on uncontrolled detonation as an explosives expert and service provider.
- Kriel Health Centre – gave a presentation on the “Compensation for the Deceased Miners and Ex Miners” according to the “Occupational Disease in Mines and Works Act of 1973 – ODMWA” that provides for the deceased employees who may have been exposed to Silica Dust, Asbestos Fibers and Diesel Fumes during their time served on the mine.

Klerksdorp RTF – the winner for the 2017 Safety Competition was finalized and announced in January. The winner Mr. Vusi Ncube from the AGA Noligwa Plant, received a bicycle as a prize from the employers and a bag filled with various items as a gift from MHSC.

- The usage of the Milestone portal was presented at the Klerksdorp RTF.
- Klerksdorp continued with the HS Representative competition.
- Klerksdorp had a successful AGM and a new chairperson and steering committee was elected.

Rustenburg RTF – they hosted an energetic industrial play that was sponsored by the employers. The play was centered around Woman in Mining, Section 22 and 23 on the Mine Health and Safety Act.

Gauteng RTF – the revival of the Ukhozi RTF. The TTK Facilitator had an initial meeting with the current chairperson to discuss the solutions on reviving the RTF, some work still needs to be done to ensure effectiveness of the Forum, this is the forum focusing on quarry operators.

KZN Women in Mining RTF – the TTK facilitator presented the MHSC's Women in Mining presentation in line with the KZN Woman in Mining Workshop that is to be held on 16 March 2018. The KZN Women in Mining Committee members were introduced at the meeting and the KZN WIM logo was elected and agreed upon. The previous steering committee's time to serve had lapsed. All members were notified of the KZN Women in Mining Workshop and

employers were urged to support the event with regards to releasing employees from their respective operations and providing transport for their employees.

Mpumalanga Underground Coal RTF – the meeting was structured for the task teams to report back on outstanding tasks given during the previous RTF meeting. The Fall of Ground Task Team reported on their involvement with the MOSH FOG team and learning gained related to the new dew designs in roof support structures. The task team also emphasized the importance of training that is offered by the Rock Engineering School in Matla Colliery. The conveyor belt task team reported on the safety drive that they took on in the coal mining operations around Mpumalanga focusing on training of conveyor belt operators and the conducting of risk assessments. The South African Colliery Engineering Association (SACEA) also made a presentation. They stated that their objectives for 2018 are the development of leading practices in the mining industry, the sharing of leading practices and information, Zero Harm and Safe Production. SACEA encouraged the RTF members to attend the SACEA meetings even if they were not members. The SACEA noted with concern that there were already 14 fatalities in the mining industry to date.

Summary of challenges in the RTF regions and responses to the challenges

| | Challenges | Responses |
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| i. | There are challenges of fatalities being caused by FOG in most regions. | In collaboration with stakeholders, develop specific strategies from research outcomes of projects conducted previously at the MHSC and the CoE, addressing FOG. MOSH made a presentation on FOG in Rustenburg RTF to re-emphasise the impact of FOD's on the industry. |
| ii. | Illegal mining is on the rise in the Free State region and fatalities are high as a result. There is a request for co-operation with authorities to reduce illegal mining by closing off possible access to mining sites and shafts. | There's a project in progress to develop a design methodology to seal off abandoned mine openings to prevent access by illegal miners. There is also a national illegal mining forum looking at possible sustainable solutions to address illegal mining. |
| iii. | TB Incidents are on the rise in the Free State Region as reported by the Free State RTF Health Sub Committee | The TB day was held on 24 March in Welkom, Free State and combined with the HIV world day (as the diseases go hand in hand). The purpose of the event was to raise awareness on TB issues in the region and HIV. TB and HIV testing stations were made available at the event for onsite testing as a response to the rise of TB incidents in the region. |

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| iv. | Lifestyle diseases were identified as a challenge in the Welkom region and stakeholders were asked to improve their efforts in dealing with this challenge. | As a start to improving the health of the workers, the Nutrition booklet for the mining industry will be disseminated at the Welkom RTF and other RTF's, in an effort to educate and address some of the challenges brought about by lifestyle diseases. The DMR Health & Safety Road Show, in which MHSC has been invited to partake, will address some of these health issues. |
| v. | Fatigue Management is still a major challenge. This was discussed as part of the findings by the explosive sub-steering committee. | MHSC will collaborate with DMR to popularize the guideline on fatigue management. |
| vi. | There was a shared concern about the number of fatalities experienced in 2017 and the recent increase year on year for Jan 2018. | The OHS Ministerial campaign will be initiated, in an effort to raise awareness on OHS matters amongst stakeholders, focusing on workers at coal face. |
| vii. | There is re-occurring absence of Nkomati Mine and Burnstone at the Mpumalanga Underground Hard Rock meetings. | MHSC facilitator has established communication with Nkomati Mine and provided them with the year schedule as a commitment to attend the upcoming meeting. Communication with Burnstone will soon commence. |
| viii. | The Mpumalanga Underground Hard Rock RTF region has logistical problems with holding Steering Committee meetings. | It was agreed with the chairperson that the meetings should be more flexible to accommodate others. Steering Committee functions will be performed through communication instead of an actual meeting |
| ix. | Diminishing participation of the Ukhozi RTF. | The TTK Facilitator had a meeting with the current chairperson to discuss the revival of the RTF and the steps to be taken. |
| x. | The KZN North RTF Steering committee has had problems with attendance of members which has rendered the RTF meetings ineffective. | The new steering committee was elected during the RTF meeting. |
| xi. | A concern was raised about the organized labour not being included in the agenda at Mpumalanga Surface Mines and Quarries. Presentations were not inclusive of the organized labour. | The RTF chairperson and MHSC facilitator will include the organized labour representatives in the agenda for the next RTF meetings (this will be done in next Steering Committee meeting) |

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| xii. | MHSC facilitators are overloaded with administrative tasks at the RTF meeting and expected to also participate by giving a presentation and take photographs during the meeting. | These administration issues were discussed with the RTF Chairperson and it was agreed to have the steering committee members play an active role during the meeting by assisting with taking minutes. MHSC is considering obtaining services of relevant service providers to assist with administrative matters. This will ensure that there is more focus on dissemination and promotion of work of MHSC. |
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Courtesy: MHSC

STATUS OF MHSC APPROVED LEGISLATIONS AND ADVISORY NOTES

Background /issues

The MHSC Office has conducted an analysis exercise on the approved legislations and Advisory Notes and the following table depicts the outcomes of the analysis conducted.

| | Awaiting feedback from DMR | Date of MHSC meeting | Date submitted to DMR | Comment |
|----|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Shafts and Winders Regulations | 25 July 12 | 30 July 12 | Revising document to include minimum standards – requested by CD TSU |
| 2. | Mines Rescue Services Regulations | 28 Oct 14 | 5 Nov 14 | Document being revised at DMR |
| 3. | Accident Investigations Guideline | 28 July 15 | 2 March 16 | Was reviewed by DMR then sent to DMR for promulgation |
| 4. | Amendment to Mine Health and Safety Act | 27 May 16 | 27 May 16 | Awaiting feedback from DMR and NEDLAC |
| 5. | National Policy on Enforcement Advisory Note | 26 April 16 | 31 May 16 | Was sent to CloM for decision on Guideline |
| 6. | MHSC members approved the Advisory note of FOG Guideline | 16 March 17 | 31 March 17 | Revised FOG guideline resubmitted to DMR on the 20 th March 2018 |
| 7. | Guideline for the compilation of a Mandatory Code of Practice on the Roles and Responsibilities of Occupational Health Practitioners in a System of Medical Surveillance at a Mine | 27 March 14 | 28 March 14 | LDC returned to MOHAC to address technical issues |

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| 8. | Guidance note for the implementation of Tuberculosis Preventative Therapy among people living with HIV and Silicosis in South Africa | 23 Feb 16 | Being reviewed by LDC | |
| 9. | Advisory report on Trackless Mobile Machinery | 26 Oct 16 | 27 Jul 17 | Collision Avoidance technology not advanced enough for implementation. MRAC to submit revised advisory note at Council meeting of May 2018. |
| 10. | MHSC members approved the Advisory note on Falls of Ground (FOG) Regulations | 16 March 17 | 31 March 17 | Fall of ground regulations should not be promulgated until the review of Chapter 7 of Mineral Act Regulations has been finalized by the Task Team and is incorporated into Chapter 14 of the Mine Health and Safety Act Regulations |
| 11. | Advisory note on the project “Developments of small Scale Mining Guidelines” | 26 Oct 16 | 5 Dec 16 | The MHSC office has 1164 copies of this guideline in stock, and will distribute copies at Coalsafe on the 19 th of April 2018, World TB conference in June 2018 and the OHS summit in November 2018. |

Courtesy: MHSC

SERIOUS ACCIDENT ALERT : Excavator operator trapped, injured when material fell on machine

An excavator operator was trapped in the cab for several minutes after material from a bank fell engulfing the excavator. The operator suffered injuries to his arm.

TIPS FOR MANAGING YOUR SITE SAFELY

- Talk to and listen to your workers – particularly for managing your hazards and risks, and developing your management system.
 - Identify your hazards – have robust controls for their risks, and review regularly.
 - Supervise your operations – including contractors
 - Regularly check – plant and equipment to ensure it can operate safely.
 - Ensure everyone gets the right training – including you, and is competent for their job.
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SERIOUS ACCIDENT ALERT

Surface – Sand and Gravel – a miner unbolted and lowered a point of contact guard exposing the moving conveyor rollers on one side of a stacking conveyor. While standing on the blade of a bulldozer, the victim attempted to dislodge ice buildup and was pulled into the conveyor and sustained severe injuries. The conveyor had not been de-energised, lock out, or blocked against motion.

Best Practices

- Do not perform work on a belt conveyor until the power is off, locked and tagged, and machinery components are blocked against motion.
- Before beginning any work, ensure that persons assigned to work on belt conveyors are task trained and understand the hazards associated with the work to be performed.
- Never clean pulleys or idlers manually while belt conveyors are operating.
- Identify hazards around belt conveyor systems.
- Design and securely install guarding to ensure miners do not contact moving machine parts.
- Do not wear loose fitting clothing when working near moving machine parts.
- Provide emergency stop mechanisms at the control panel(s) and at ground level where maintenance or repair work is performed.

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**NICO PIENAAR
DIRECTOR**