

December 2017

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A Christmas message from MinEX

Hi, only six more sleeps until Christmas! So, let me just quickly highlight some things MinEx has been behind or supporting this year to make you and your operation safer and which you may wish to reflect on during your holidays.



RCS survey

During Oct-Nov MinEx conducted a survey of its database to establish what sites are doing in terms of identifying hazards associated with exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS), assessing the risks, and conducting health surveillance. The purpose was to identify how Minex could assist the extractives sector in their understanding of hazards associated with worker exposure to RCS. 159 respondents completed the survey. A summary of results shows that:

- 84% of respondents conduct health assessments of workers (79% include lung function test)
- 75% of respondents are aware of the ACOP on Air Quality in the Extractives Industry
- 55% of respondents have conducted dust monitoring (80% in accordance with relevant standards)



While a large number of respondents are conducting health surveillance of workers, a number of sites are not conducting dust monitoring and therefore may not have adequately assessed the risks of RCS exposure to workers.

Next steps will include the communication of results to participants, and the wider sector. MinEx has developed a training package on Worker Health which was recently delivered to a group of alluvial gold miners on the West Coast. This package has been made available to industry and professional associations within the extractives sector. MinEx has also released a [Guide to Worker Health in Extractives](#) which is now our website. We also plan to develop a flyer on RCS for industry.

Health and Safety Template

We've provided small quarries with a [Health and Safety Template](#). Please review this as you start any New Year planning. It's designed to help you manage the risks to you, your staff or workmates.



Mentors now available

Consider taking up our mentoring service in 2018. Oral exam pass rates for B grades have now gone to 60% when a few months ago, that was the level of failure. Our mentors, stretching from Northland to Southland have generously contributed to that improvement. If you or one of your staff need help with exams, we may be able to provide some local assistance. Just ask us.



Your CoCs must be in place

A crackdown on having CoCs in place is emerging. We are now nigh on a year past the time when every mine and quarry, no matter how small, was required to have someone with a CoC in charge of a site. WorkSafe is starting to use prohibition (closure) notices. This can only intensify in 2018. Don't think you can remain below the radar or continue to offer a 'we are trying' explanation.



Help us to help you.



We issued a call earlier this year for people to share their 'near miss' experiences and have had a good response. Every extractive site has these 'OMG' moments where someone narrowly escapes being seriously harmed. If we share these, other sites can avoid repeating such incidents with potentially deadly consequences.

So as you ease into 2018, please take a few minutes to email or call me about your site's 'near miss' experience(s). I give my word that the information will not be on-passed and will remove any details that can identify a site.

In the interim, I wish you, your staff and workmates and families every best wish for a safe and happy Christmas and holiday.

Wayne Scott

CEO

MinEx

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The New Zealand Minerals Forum 2018

 <p>New Zealand Minerals Forum 2018 <i>Understanding our Advantage</i></p>	<p>NEW ZEALAND'S PREMIER MINERALS EVENT</p>	<p>EARLY BIRD CLOSING 31 JANUARY</p>
	<p> NEW ZEALAND PETROLEUM & MINERALS</p> <p> STRATERRA <small>MINERAL RESOURCES OF NEW ZEALAND</small></p> <p>RYDGES HOTEL, QUEENSTOWN 29-30 MAY</p>	

Register today to attend the New Zealand Minerals Forum, to be held 29 – 30 May in Queenstown.

The two day conference and exhibition seeks to showcase the New Zealand mining sector, promote mineral prospectivity, and share stories of environmental excellence, along with providing regulatory roadmap guidance, exclusive industry announcements and investment opportunities.

Register online at www.mineralsforum.co.nz, early bird closing 31 January.

As part of the Minerals Forum, on day two, there is a dedicated forum for Senior Site Executives, Mine Managers and Certificate of Competence holders.

The focus will be on mine management, a role that has taken on more responsibility in the modern mining environment but is open to budding mine managers and deputies.

Important subjects that straddle coal, underground gold, opencast gold, alluvial, industrial minerals and scale aggregates will be discussed. These include health & safety, staff management, technology adoption and geotechnics.

Key speakers are:

- Steve Riddell - *Director, Kaipara*
- Andrew Holley - *Mine Manager, New Zealand Coal & Carbon*
- Dave Bellett - *Deputy Chief Inspector - Extractives, WorkSafe*
- Matt Mengel - *Production Manager, Macraes Mine, OceanaGold*
- Mathew Arthur - *General Manager, Imerys Ceramics*
- Clayton Hill - *Principal, Groundwork Plus*
- Glenville Stiles - *Emergency Management Advisor, New Zealand Mines Rescue*
- Wayne Scott - *Chief Executive Officer, MinEx*

Additional streams within the programme are the Coal Users' Forum, Investment Opportunities, and Scale Aggregates and Industrial Minerals, which provide a range of training opportunities to upskill and gain required industry accreditations and CPD hours.

Full programme available for viewing on www.mineralsforum.co.nz

Visit the newly released Q3 health and safety stats
[Click here](#)

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