



Inspector's View

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**The Arizona State Mine Inspector's Office, SERVING ARIZONA, SAVING LIVES,
Committed to Safety. Protecting the lives of Arizona Miners.**

FOCUS:

It is the middle of June, and already the US has experienced 23 fatal mining accidents to date. One fatality is too many, but at this rate we will have well over 40 fatalities in the mining industry by year's end. Additionally, the Arizona LTIR continues to increase with a 1st Qtr rate of 2.8. How do we stop this rash of incidents and accidents? The answer is simple but the task of changing the upward spiral of incidents will be challenging. Management, safety professionals, and supervisors must get into the field and hold all miners accountable. The path to ZERO incidents cannot be done through safety regulations alone, but through a culture of safety that must come from YOU and your operation. Upper level managers YOU must raise expectations of safety at your operations and expect your safety professionals and supervisors to be present in the field to identify and correct hazards. Mining is inherently dangerous and the safety hazards that are killing and hurting our miners are not likely to occur in the office or over a Zoom meeting. We cannot protect miners if we do not get out into the field and work alongside miners, conducting audits of behaviors, workplaces, and practices. A safety policy and procedure manual does not keep your employees safe, YOU do! Your audits, inspections, and the accountability of your miners, helps to eliminate hazards in the workplace and curb risky behaviors. Together we can work side by side and begin the process of reducing incidents in Arizona Mines.

And do not forget about the contractors on your mine site. YOU are responsible for their safety as well.

May's TOP 5 WRITTEN VIOLATIONS:

1. **Cabs of Mobile Equipment - Housekeeping: R11-1-509.** Cabs of mobile equipment shall be kept free of extraneous materials.
2. **Unsafe Equipment: R11-1-531.** Unsafe equipment or machinery presenting an immediate danger must either be repaired immediately or be otherwise rendered not subject to further use until repaired.
3. **Guarding Machinery: 27-313-A.** All moving parts of machinery to which workmen may be exposed shall be adequately guarded. Guards shall conform to the standards set forth in the rules.
Guarding Machinery: 27-313-B. A guard or safety device necessary for safe operation which has been removed from any machine shall be replaced before the machine is returned to productive operations.
Design of Guards: R11-1-505. Guards shall be properly designed and sufficiently strong to provide the required protection and withstand the wear of normal operation.
4. **Unsafe Access: R11-1-149.** Safe means of access shall be provided and maintained to all working places.
5. **Unsecured Gas Cylinders / Valves: R-11-309.** Valves on oxygen and acetylene tanks shall be kept closed when the contests are not being used.

SAFETY SHARE: June's Safety Share is on the **Dangers of Open Holes.** *Please feel free to share.*

If you have a topic that you would like to see, or share, please send to publicinfo@asmi.az.gov

BEST PRACTICE OF THE MONTH: June's Best Practice of the Month is the **20/20/20 Practice** submitted by Chris Bistolas from the Project Management Consulting Group.

Submit your best practice, by sending it to publicinfo@asmi.az.gov to have it featured in an upcoming newsletter.

DID YOU KNOW: ASMI Reclamation Plans require Annual Reporting for any site with an approved plan regardless of whether or not the site is actively mining. In addition, ASMI can require a cost estimate update every five years. If you have questions, please reach out to Amanda Lothner @ ALothner@asmi.az.gov