



*Natural building blocks for quality of life*



---

# Start Each Day with Safety

Everyone's lives seem to be very busy in this fast paced world. We rush to get to work and then rush home. We urge all mine operators to take one or two minutes at the beginning of each shift to talk about safety at the mine. Such talks can have several safety and operational benefits. The talks will prompt everyone to stop thinking about and/or worrying about non-work issues and help focus everyone on the job at hand for the day. It's only one or two minutes out of the average 480 minute workday and it can pay huge dividends at the mine. You may ask what we could talk about everyday for a minute or two. Here are just a few examples:

- Heavy rains last night have caused the roadways to become a little slippery, so slow down. There are a few puddles that you should be watching out for and all miners should pay special attention to traffic.
- We will be working on the conveyor during lunch. It will be shutdown, locked and tagged. When it stops don't be alarmed and don't try to re-start it.
- We have drilling and blasting contractor crews on site today. Watch out for them.
- Hunting season starts on Saturday and most of you are anxious, but let's stay focused on our jobs today.
- We've gone another 100 days without an accident or injury. Keep up the good work.
- We have a new customer coming to the mine today to pick-up material. Please watch out for someone that may be looking for the load-out area. They are not familiar with our mine, so be extra careful today!
- Does anyone have any safety or health suggestions?

These are just a few examples. The point is to get everyone together and help focus everyone on the job at hand and on how to do it safely. We ask you to make this a daily habit. Try it for a couple of weeks and then decide if it is a habit you want to keep. Also, please let us know how it is working and send us any "safety first" topics that you have used and would like to share. We plan to compile a list, post them on our webpage, and send them to mine operators on a regular basis.

# Focus on Safety as a Value Everyday

*Rogers decided to re-invigorate its safety program four years ago after we realized our injury incident rate had plateaued at a rate of 4 reportable accidents per 100 employees. Our rate has since dropped about 67% to 1.4. Good things happen when management commits to doing something positive about safety.*

*- Don Williamson, President & CEO, The Rogers Group  
and NSSGA Chair of the NSSGA-MSHA Alliance Team*

*Management has to let its employees know it cares about safety. But management has to walk the walk as well by setting a good example. That means always buckling up and wearing safety equipment during mine tours, and insisting on wearing hearing protection before managers and supervisors enter high noise areas. When management communicates by doing, everyone gets the message.*

*- Paul C. Mellott, Jr., Chairman & CEO, H.B. Mellott Estate, Inc.*

Our company management team and I spend a lot of time making sure our employees know their value to the company. When we catch someone doing something good, we let that individual know on the spot. We're straightforward and immediate working within our operations to correct safety risks. We want everyone going home at night in as good a condition as they came to work in the morning. Good safety goes with good productivity.

*- Tony Basolo, President, Dolese Bros. Co.*

*Our internal surveys showed that 96% of our accidents were occurring because of poor decision-making, so we focused on that problem. We have experienced a 24% reduction in injuries since launching our remediation program more than a year ago.*

*- Stephen P. Zelnak, Chairman & CEO, Martin Marietta Materials*

*Distraction and a lack of focus cause many accidents. Our emphasis on management commitment, good communications and rigorous housekeeping keep our injury rate well below the industry average.*

*- Jeff Roverud, President, Roverud Construction, Inc.*