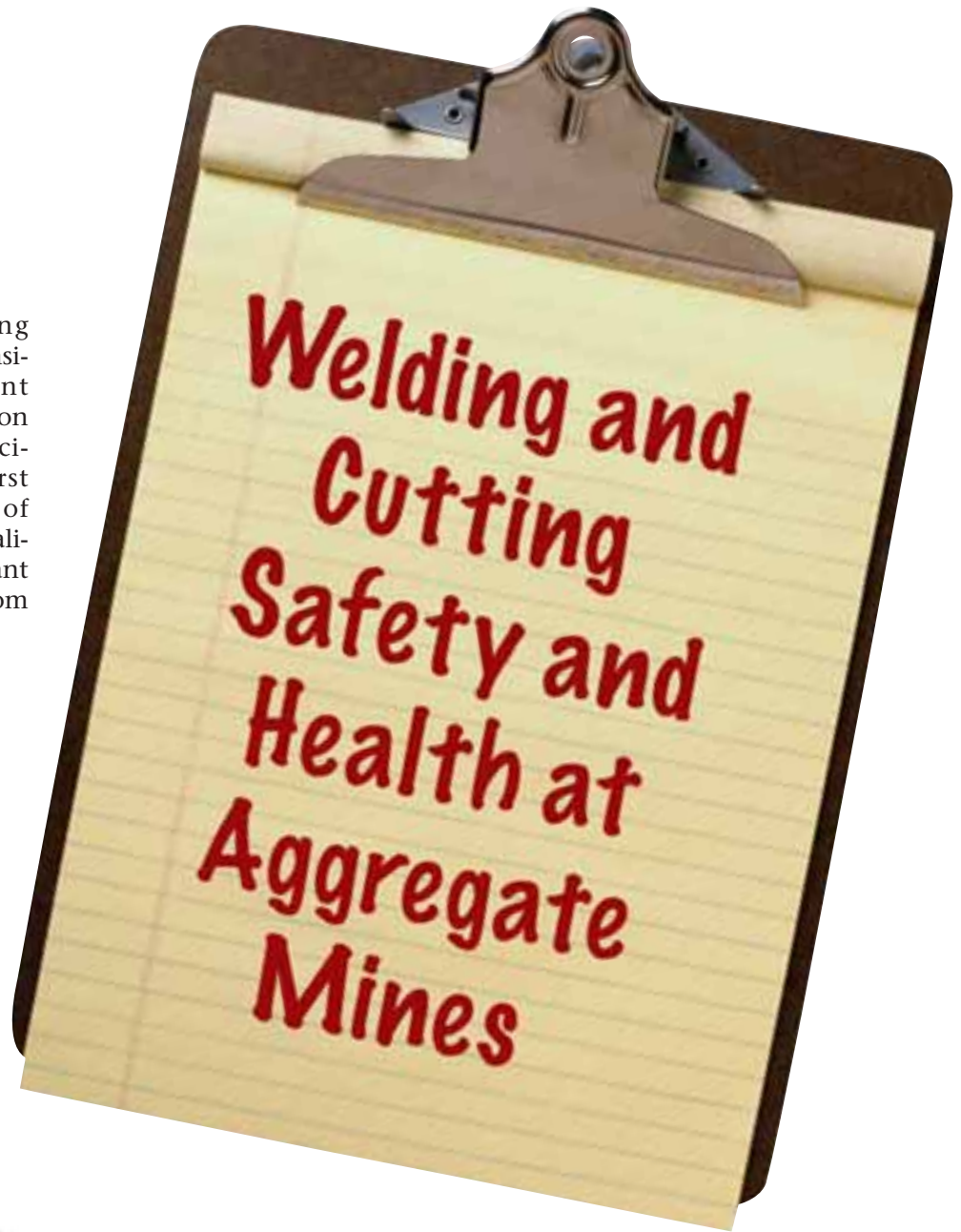


Safety and Health Professionals

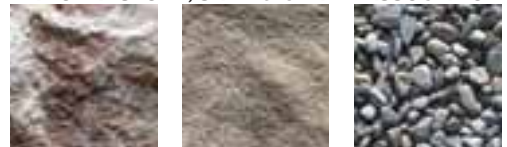
You Need to Know!

Welding and cutting accidents are responsible for a significant number of injuries and illness on mine sites. There were 51 incidents reported during the first half of 2005. Though none of these incidents resulted in a fatality, 21 suffered injuries significant enough to cause days away from work. Here's how it looks:

- (25) Burns
- (09) Flash burn
- (08) Foreign body in eye
- (04) Pinch
- (03) Laceration
- (02) Difficulty breathing/nausea



NATIONAL STONE, SAND & GRAVEL ASSOCIATION



Natural building blocks for quality of life



What Does This Mean To You??

BURNS:

Major cause was slag. Burns were primarily to ears. Others were the result of slag reaching the skin through unsecured sleeves, gloves and boots.

SLAG:

If it can reach your skin - IT WILL BURN YOU. Make sure skin is well covered- ESPECIALLY YOUR EARS!

FLASH/ARC BURNS:

Can be an accumulated injury. Damage can be done even if it doesn't hurt right away.

EYE INJURIES:

Most were wearing safety glasses. That is just not enough. If hot slag can find even the smallest opening around your eyes, you will likely suffer. Use safety glasses and a welding shield.

PINCH/LACERATIONS:

Prior to beginning work, generously secure pieces to be cut or welded.



EQUIPMENT:

Inspect your equipment before you use it. Don't risk loose fittings that can lead to serious burns.

SLAG:

Make sure skin is well covered - ESPECIALLY YOUR EARS!

FLASH/ARC BURNS:

Working together? Use curtains or barrier shields to prevent double hazard exposure.

VENTILATION:

Fumes can make you sick EVEN IF YOU ARE WELDING IN OPEN AIR. Be sure you have a method to adequately remove welding fumes from your work area.

What did these incidences have in common:

- Inadequate planning prior to beginning work
- Inadequate inspection of equipment prior to beginning work

Specific problems arose from use of inadequate PPE:

- Inconsistent use
- Inadequate protection level (lens color density, clothing type, fit)

Other tips: Prior to beginning work –

- Generously secure pieces to be welded
- If you set the stinger down, be sure it won't burn you
- Keep work area clean and clear of combustibles

REMEMBER:

If slag can reach your skin it will burn...

How does your PPE fit?



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