



RIP & SHARE SAFETY HANDOUT

The Safety Pledge: Relevant and Ready for All to Sign



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In February 2003, the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration and NSSGA embarked on a groundbreaking alliance agreement that pledged to work together to reduce injuries in aggregates operations. Its first initiative was to develop a management commitment Safety Pledge.

This first step was actually in response to member companies within the industry whose CEO or owner had made a similar commitment to achieve a reduction in injuries. Approximately 86 percent of the NSSGA producer member companies signed the original safety pledge in 2003, which promised those member companies would work to help reduce the injury incident rate in aggregates by 50 percent by the end of 2007. The alliance renewed its agreement in 2006.

Can we say the Safety Pledge has worked? Industry statistics as supplied by MSHA reveal the following:

Total Injury Rate:

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
3.58	3.54	3.47	3.41	3.12	2.86

Number of Fatalities (per 100,000 employees):

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
20	17	15	22	13	11

Source: Mine Safety and Health Administration, US Department of Labor, 2007, www.msha.gov

Please clip here, sign and keep a copy for your company. Fax to Joe Casper, NSSGA's Vice President for Safety Services at 703-525-7782



NSSGA Safety Pledge for Member Companies

As an aggregates producer or supplier to the industry, our company is committed to a culture that promotes our employees as our most valuable resource.

We believe that safety and health are core values. Our goal is to work with our miners to ensure they know how to recognize and prevent injuries and exposure to harmful substances in order to return home safely at the end of every shift.

To accomplish this, we will improve employee safety and health practices, ensure the amount and quality of formal employee training is appropriate, and advocate greater employee participation in the safety and health process.

We will continually enhance management's direct participation through personal example and leadership in all aspects of safety and health, specifically that of senior management, production and plant managers, field superintendents and supervisors.

By voluntarily signing this agreement, we demonstrate our commitment to a work environment designed to eliminate injury incidents, which will ultimately result in zero fatalities. With continuous improvement, our next milestone in this process will be work to reduce the MSHA injury incidence rate by **10 percent every year.**

Name _____
Company _____

NATIONAL STONE, SAND & GRAVEL ASSOCIATION



Natural building blocks for quality of life



While a 50-percent injury incident reduction in five years was a high bar to reach, the good news lies in a downward trend. But our industry requires commitment from managers to continue this trend.

One of the paradoxes in the management world and identified by former U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich is, "Change doesn't happen top down; change happens from wherever you are." The Safety Pledge, when signed, shared, displayed and reinforced at the ground level, is where the return on capital (human and financial) will allow us to reap what we sow.

There is one key phrase in the MSHA/NSSGA Alliance Agreement that truly sums up the means to our goals and the importance of the Safety Pledge: "We need a culture of prevention."

As aggregates producers, we each share in the responsibility to our miners of a "culture" of prevention. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure—in this case, pledging, uniformity of purpose and a shared vision and commitment to the safe production within our industry.

Your commitment to the new 2008 Safety Pledge can help reduce injuries and illnesses, impact workers'

compensation costs, affect miner morale and enhance safe production at the mine site. The sum of the whole is greater than its part. Each aggregate producer impacts the MSHA statistics. Your renewal of the Safety Pledge will be to reduce the MSHA injury incidence rate by 10 percent every year. It implies the promise by member companies to have continuous improvement thereafter. Now, well into 2008, the Safety Pledge is ready for your signature.

Sign the Safety Pledge today. For further information on the NSSGA/MSHA Alliance, visit www.nssga.org/safetyhealth/alliance_agreement.cfm or contact NSSGA at (800) 342-1415. ■

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