

Health & Safety Update 2024



www.MinEx.org.nz



1

Before we get underway

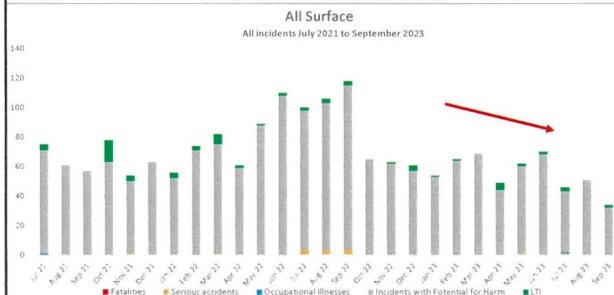
- Please switch OFF mobile phones
- What to do in event of emergency
- Facilities and messages
- Introductions

www.MinEx.org.nz



2

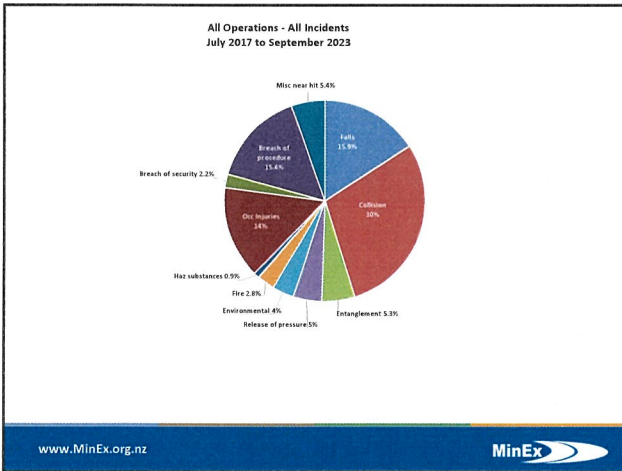
All incidents: All Operations – by category (including potentials/near hits)



www.MinEx.org.nz



3



4

Trends across 2024

- Breach of procedure and occupational injury incidents continued to be prominent
- Overall incident numbers decreased
- Repeat incidents continued
- Health and wellbeing receiving more attention (particularly mental health)

Hey guys!! one last pic... before we all get fired...

www.MinEx.org.nz

5

Convictions and Fines increase

- Freight company ordered to pay \$734k after worker run over in Bluff shed.
- Ski resort ordered to pay \$598k after women died as a result of the company failing to identify hazards.
- An operator of a giant inflatable slide was ordered to pay \$403k for causing the death of a child.
- Sealord ordered to pay \$292k when two workers exposed to asbestos.

www.MinEx.org.nz

6

Australia bans engineered stone bench tops

- Australia became the first country in the world to announce a ban on engineered stone (effective July 2024).
- There are almost 700 accepted workers compensation claims for silicosis. Most workers are under 35 years of age.
- SafeWork Australia investigation determined that use of engineered stone should be prohibited.
- All State Governments agreed that it could not be managed safely.

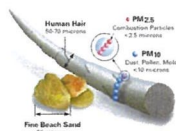


www.MinEx.org.nz



7

Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS)



- Invisible to the naked eye.
- Created when materials containing silica are cut, crushed, ground, drilled or otherwise disturbed.
- Exposure is more important than content.

- RCS inhaled can accumulate in the lungs for many years.
- Increased risk of tuberculosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and lung cancer.



www.MinEx.org.nz



8

Dust controls

- Suppression by design
- Water cart
- Enclosed and clean cabins
- Wet dust suppression
- Dry dust extraction
- Separation of workers from sources of dust
- Appropriate PPE





www.MinEx.org.nz



9

Workforce flexibility

- Labour shortages have led to reviews of working hours, conditions etc.
- Migrant labour more prevalent.
- Work/life balance more important.
- Trial in Melbourne Construction sites, 20% more productive.

www.MinEx.org.nz **MinEx**

10

At MinEx we were busy

- Booklets covering safe Drilling and Blasting, and Managing Psychosocial Hazards, published
- Work on the review of Qualifications progressing
- Developed templates and examples (e.g., PHMP)
- Review of MinEx booklets continues
- Weekly Safety Alerts
- Submissions on Govt policy



www.MinEx.org.nz **MinEx**

11



Is there anything you would like to share from your 2023 experience?

www.MinEx.org.nz **MinEx**

12



Wayne Scott
CEO - MinEx & AQA

Email: wayne@aqa.org.nz
Mobile: 021 944 336

www.MinEx.org.nz