



It's been great to get the 2021 workshops underway. We began in Blenheim with a dozen attendees and then twice that number in the bigger centre of Nelson.

I started the Marlborough workshop remarking that in my 40 years in the industry, there's nothing new in the reasons for death and injuries in our sector; we just keep repeating the same mistakes.

It was the week of our America's Cup win. While I love sport as much as anyone – and the races were thrilling – you can't help but note that we as taxpayers contributed more than \$130m to retain the Auld Mug, that's almost exactly the same as WorkSafe's budget, mostly funded by ACC levies.

Sure, the America's Cup gives us a huge international profile and boosts industries like boat building, hospitality (and tourism in non-Covid years). But every week (or less) on average, a Kiwi dies in a workplace. Last year the number reached 63, one of them in quarrying and in 2019, 110 died on a variety of New Zealand work sites.

Even after a major Government boost included in the 2019 budget over 4 years, WorkSafe remains considerably underfunded.

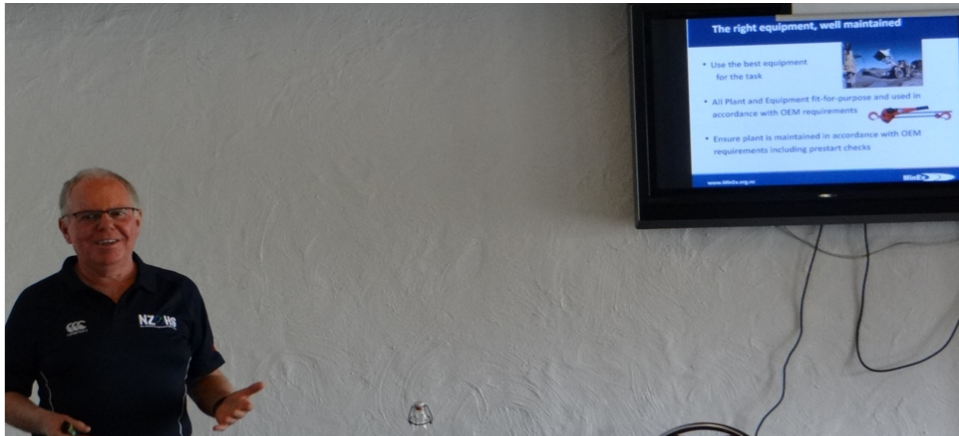
I'm grateful that WorkSafe supports our workshops. At the Blenheim and Nelson events we had HHU Team Leader Charlene Donald and Canterbury-based extractives inspector Cristina Hatton who presented on Mobile Plant, Road Design, Seatbelts and Investigating Incidents (see stories in this Train Brain). These are two of the team of five inspectors for 1200 active New Zealand quarries, meaning you might get a visit one year in five. In Queensland, when I worked there, we had 17 inspectors for 400 sites.

I'm not saying that more inspectors will end deaths and serious injuries (though enforcement of the regulations we as an industry have helped bring together, certainly helps). It's really up to us, every day on every site, to ensure our people go home safely. The just-released [Workforce Development Strategy](#) for our sector notes we are perceived as having high health and safety risks, which leads to challenges in recruiting people.

We have to address that perception and that means continuing to lift our game, with training the key element.

So, please read this Train Brain and then look at [registering](#) for one of our workshops, the next two of which are in Kerikeri on April 12 and Dargaville on April 13.

Team New Zealand didn't just win because it was well-funded – other teams spent more; it was their unrelenting focus on training and detail. I think we can all learn from that.



Wayne Scott presenting at the MinEx Health & Safety Workshop in Blenheim

Stay safe and productive – hope to see you at a workshop soon.

Wayne

Wayne Scott
CEO MinEx and AQA

Mobile plant risks and seatbelt myth

Mobile plant incidents, most notably involving Articulated Dump Trucks (ADTs) are providing such a high percent of reported incidents that last year WorkSafe started a specific project to map the risks.

Cristina Hatton, a Canterbury-based High Hazards Unit (HHU) inspector told the Blenheim MinEx workshop that mobile plant accounted for nearly a third of the 150 notifiable incidents last year.

She says that this number is likely to be considerably higher as WorkSafe have good cause to believe that the quarry industry is under-reporting on these events.

ADTs are rolling over 'way too often' with excessive speed, tyre pressures and



Cristina Hatton, HHU inspector, WorkSafe

Cristina says seatbelts needed to be worn at all times and did a bit of myth-busting of things sometimes heard about them.

The first was that in a crash, not wearing a seatbelt allows someone to be thrown clear. In fact, a driver or passenger thrown out of a cab faces an 80% chance of dying

unsafe tipping being common causes.

Quarry managers often point the blame at operators but need to dig deeper. Roads were often too steep or narrow or with inadequate drainage or maintenance. Open edge protection was critical requiring appropriate windrows and bunds at tip heads. Sites need to have good traffic management plans, and suitable training and supervision. Quarries might also consider rigid trucks rather than ADTs as these were sometimes more suitable for particular sites.

as a result.

Another myth was that a driver without a seatbelt could brace themselves against the steering wheel or dash in a crash. The sudden deceleration of a vehicle in a crash at just 30kmph will transform the mass of an unbelted 80kg person into 6,000kgs.

Northland workshops up next



Our next MinEx workshops are being held on **Monday April 12 in Kerikeri** and **Tuesday April 13 in Dargaville** before heading to the King Country and West Coast.

I start each workshop with a review of the previous year's incidents. There's always a range of good questions. At our opening workshop in Blenheim, a couple of quarrymen were asking about whether HHU inspectors have access to sites. In fact, they have more legal rights of access than the police.

While you can pick up information from a range of sources, including our own [podcasts](#) and [handouts](#), nothing beats being in the room and able to ask questions of me and the HHU inspectors who co-present the workshops.

- Mon 12 April Kerikeri
- Tues 13 April Dargaville
- Thurs 15 April Te Kuiti
- Wed 21 April Greymouth
- Mon 17 May Palmerston North
- Tues 18 May Waipukurau
- Thurs 20 May Gisborne
- Thurs 3 June Ashburton
- Mon 21 June Dunedin
- Tue 22 June Invercargill
- Thurs 24 June Cromwell
- Mon 11 October Paeroa
- Tues 12 October Rotorua
- Thurs 14 October Whakatane

We cover Operating and Safety systems, Emergency Management, Leadership and Legislation. You get 8 hours CPD for attending – all for \$150-165+GST. Register [here](#) or email office@minex.org.nz

***It is a good idea to record your CPD
unrestricted and restricted hours
every time CPD is completed.
It only takes a few minutes!***



The older you get, the harder you fall

Take a look around your smoko or seminar room. If it's a typical bunch of quarry workers, most of them are middle-aged and older.

That's no surprise. Our just released [Workforce Development Strategy](#) confirms 55% of our staff are older than 45 and many are into Gold Card membership; only 15% are younger than 30.

I often hear older workers saying the younger ones present the most risks of serious injury and death. It staggers some to hear that in fact the stats show that those aged 65+ present by far the highest risks in the workplace (although new recruits are another high-risk area).

The truth is, the older you are the more likely you will die at work. There are a whole number of factors here. Obviously as we get older, we lose some of our capacity to survive nasty trips, falls and mobile plant accidents – by far the biggest causes of death and injury in our sector.

But another factor is complacency. Every fatality that I've had a role in investigating in the quarry sector involved people who were doing things they had done before.

That's why I continue to ask you to report near misses to MinEx. If you've had one, it will likely cause you to review processes to ensure there isn't another near miss – or worse. But if you share that with us, it may help prevent a serious injury happening at another site.

A couple of final comments on our older workers. They may present the highest risks, but they also have decades of experience; if they are making a suggestion on health & safety issues, listen to it.

And be aware of the challenges faced as this generation retires; not only will it often mean the loss of a CoC on a quarry site, there is also increasing competition for younger workers.



One or two young people were among the dozen who attended the Blenheim workshop

Never a better time to train

There's never been a better time to get some training or for an employer to support training.

An increasing amount of training is now available, including online options and employer-friendly arrangements extending to employers being paid up to \$16,000 to take on an apprentice. Have a look at the website for [MITO](#) our industry training organisation. MinEx has been working with MITO over the last few years on our industry apprenticeship scheme which alone has now brought 75 people into Level 2 training, a third of whom have gone on to become first-tier supervisors.

Also have a look at the new [Connected](#) site which details all that's available to employers and workers from all arms of government across jobs and training. There are also 35 Connected centres around the country with specific staff who can assist.

If we as a sector don't seize the opportunities available at this time, we will soon hit the wall when our ageing workforce retires, and better-organised industries snap up the next generation of workers.



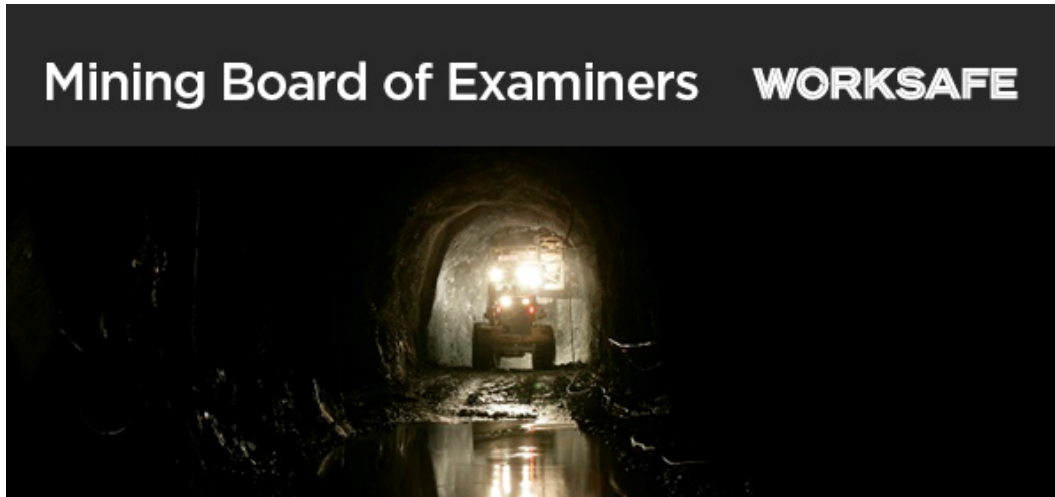
14th - 16th July 2021
Sky Stadium, Wellington

Early Bird closes 1st May

Up to 20 hours unrestricted CPD
up for grabs. [Register now!](#)



If you know of anyone who would like to receive the Train Brain email office@minex.org.nz and we'll help keep their training on track



Certificates of Competence processing and exam scheduling delays

Certificate of Competence (CoC) applications (renewals and new CoCs) and oral exam scheduling is currently taking longer than normal. This is largely due to a high number of CoC renewal applications.

What you need to know

There will be [significant delays in processing renewals](#), and some delays in arranging oral examinations.

Renewals will take longer than the two months period between application and CoC expiry date.

- The delays could potentially be up to several months.
- The delays will reduce, with the time taken to process applications returning to normal by year end.

New CoC applicants may also be delayed but the BoE intends to set up larger block examination days to process more candidates at the one time, to catch up this year.

- Oral exam dates already scheduled, or applications received and being processed for scheduling will go ahead.
- Oral exam applications received from this time will now be block booked in exam weeks. These will be held in June, August and November (in Hamilton, Christchurch and Dunedin).

Renewal applicants do not need to worry about not receiving their CoC prior to their old one expiring, as the Regulations allow for CoCs to be renewed after expiry. WorkSafe Inspectors are aware of the delay and will be able to confirm that CoC renewal is in progress if there are any issues.

IOQNZ Webinars/Courses



Next webinar is **Training and Supervision** which will be held on 5 May 2021 and facilitated by Paul Sutton.

Members \$25

Non-Members \$50

[Registrations will be open shortly via our IOQ NZ Website Store.](#)

Tai Poutini Courses



A & B Grade Training 2021 – Free Fees ([see eligibility criteria](#))

Fees for this programme are covered by the “Targeted Training and Apprenticeships Fund” and courses are delivered nationally.

Study for your B Grade now, and complete A Grade units later (if you choose) while gaining CPD hours.

This programme includes the unit standards required to support an application for an A or B Grade Quarry Managers Certificate of Competency.

The Diploma in Quarry and Mining Supervision has been developed to ensure graduates are capable of supervising and/or managing a quarry or mining site.

Go to the [Tai Poutini website here](#) to view the available courses for 2021.

Students may be eligible for free fees, see more information [HERE](#)

Contact Nicole Scalmer on 03 769 9645 or nicoles@tpp.ac.nz

Remember to keep all evidence of CPD activities as evidence to support the renewal of your CoC



ACT Safety Courses



Visit the [ACT Safety](#) website for details on training and courses you can do through ACT Safety.

Contact Irene Volschenk on (09) 270 9592

MITO Courses



Click on the link below to view or visit the [MITO website](#) for details on qualifications and courses you can do through MITO.

Contact MITO on 0800 88 21 21 to enrol.

Copyright © 2021 MinEx - Health & Safety in NZ Extractives, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

