

18 May 2016

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Welcome to the first issue of Train Brain - a regular, informative newsletter from the Mining and Quarry Health and Safety Council, MinEx

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It's a no brainer that training is the way to make sure you and your workmates or staff go home safe every day. With the new safety legislation now in place, training has got more demanding. This is new for everyone - trainers, WorkSafe, MinEx and the Board of Examiners.

Until recently, renewing your CoC was a once every 5 year cakewalk. Now, new competencies are demanded and you have just over six months to get it done by 1 January 2017. Then you'll need to keep up to date with your Continuing Professional Development.



Industry conferences count towards CPD hours. So try to attend events like the QuarryNZ Conference to be held in Blenheim 13-15 July, or AusIMM in Wellington 3-6 September.

Train Brain will be an easy way to stay up to date with training opportunities - with Train Tips on how to access useful information. Please give us feedback on how we can make your training easier to access or understand. MinEx want the Train Brain to run both ways.

Train - and be safe.

Les McCracken

CEO

MinEx

WorkSafe Workshops

The WorkSafe High Hazard Unit (HHU) is holding the workshops throughout New Zealand to outline the issues on CoCs, Oral exams, Continuing Professional Development and the new H&S@Work Act. You can also ask questions. Please pass this information onto other industry members.

*All workshops contribute towards formal CPD
hours - and food is provided.*



Marlborough/Nelson

Thursday 9 June

Time: 6pm - 8pm

Clubs of Marlborough, Hutcheson
St, Blenheim

Auckland

Thursday 7 July

Time: 6pm - 8pm

Venue: tbc

Greymouth

Thursday 21 July

Time: 6pm - 8pm

Venue: tbc

Dunedin

Tuesday 9 August

Time: 6pm - 8pm

Scenic Hotel, 123 Princes St

Invercargill

Thursday 25 August

Time: 6pm - 8pm

Ascot Park Hotel, Corner Tay St and
Racecourse Rd

Palmerston North

Tuesday 6 September

Time: 6pm - 8pm

Copthorne Hotel, 110 Fitzherbert
Ave

To register for the workshops contact gina.matenga@worksafe.govt.nz

MinEx and WorkSafe Health and Safety Forums

After seven successful, well-attended forums in 2015, MinEx and WorkSafe have continued their Health and Safety forums with the first held in New Plymouth last month. The next forums will be held in Palmerston North and Nelson.

Palmerston North

Tuesday 14 June

Time: 5.30pm - 6pm - 8pm

Copthorne Hotel, 110 Fitzherbert
Ave

Nelson

Thursday 30 June

Time: 5.30pm - 6pm - 8pm

Nelson Suburban Club, 168
Tahunanui Drive

To register for the forums contact office@minex.org.nz

Training Leadership Group

Amid industry concerns about various training issues last year, Straterra and MinEX, supported by WorkSafe, brought together an Industry Training Forum last September.

Out of that forum came the mining and quarrying industry Training Leadership Group with a [mission to promote effective and valued training](#). The group is chaired by MinEx CEO Les McCracken, and now includes Mike Higgins and Darcy Maddern AQA/IOQNZ, Dave Stewart (Trainer), Charles Gawith (Underground gold Mine Manager), Fiona Bartier (H&S and Training), Peter O'Sullivan (Training providers), Mark Pizey (WorkSafe), Michael Alsford (MITO), Phillipa Junger (NZQA), and Ray Urquhart (Etú).

Given that Certificate of Competency holders now have six months to ensure

they have renewed their CoCs, MinEx is developing a database of contacts to support them.



Email office@minex.org.nz to be part of that important database which will help your CoC renewal.

There are some issues around current training material including assessment tools for all extractive unit standards. These are now being reviewed by four sub-groups to the Training Leadership Group, with support from MITO. The four groups are largely drawn from industry. MinEx wishes to acknowledge the important role they are about to play. Group members include:

- Opencast mines and quarries review group - Mike Higgins (quarries), Les McCracken (MinEx), Peter O’Sullivan (Training providers), Darcy Maddern (quarries), Charlene Donald /Philip Fourie (HHU), Tim Kennedy (quarries), Steve Bell (coal), Garth Elliot (Etú)
 - Tunnels group – Dave Stewart, Priscilla Page, plus others to be nominated by Tunnel sector
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- Underground metalliferous group – Mike Firmin plus others to be nominated by OceanaGold
- Underground coal - Dave Stewart, Steve Bell, Bryan Harrington plus others.

Feedback on Orals

WorkSafe has issued feedback on the Oral Examinations held late last year. These orals were for Site Senior Executives, Superintendents, Surveyors and Ventilation Officers. Only 60% passed their exams. The biggest area where competencies were not of a sufficient standard was in safety operating systems.

The feedback may assist if you are coming up to a CoC oral. The full WorkSafe feedback can be viewed [here](#).

MinEx is seeking similar feedback for the Quarry Orals held so far this year.

An oral exam is about testing how you would ***apply*** the knowledge you have learned, not simply the knowledge itself.



Minex Website

MinEx is revamping our current very static and rather unfriendly website to further help you with training and other health and safety information. It is expected that the new www.minex.org.nz will go live this month.

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