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MinEx says no silicosis risk for residents (2)

Thanks Murray. The press release has gone too general media so hopefully some will pick it up.
Wayne Scott

MinEx says no silicosis risk for residents (2)

This is a great article, but nothing that we didn't already know. Pleased that Wayne has met with Dr Humphrey as it is...
Murray Francis

Plan needed for aggregate supply to Christchurch (1)

Rail it over from Westport, plenty in the Buller river, right next railway. Good for flood protection as well, two...
Neal Clementson

Call to save lives from RCS exposure - MinEx (1)

It is interesting that operators focus on health checks rather than exposure monitoring. By the time health monitoring...
Kerry Cheung

Young accuses PM of mining policy misinformation (1)

Jonathan Young has hit the nail on the head. The

MinEx push for more manager training

Bernie Napp - Thu, 25 Jan 2018

MinEx is on a mission to align Certificates of Competence with New Zealand Qualifications Authority-approved certificates and diplomas.

At its first meeting yesterday at Road Metals' quarry in Rolleston, the new Extractives Industry Training Advisory Group agreed to its terms of reference, including a move for industry to a full NZQA qualifications-based CoC system.

EITAG chair and the extractives industry health and safety council's CEO, Wayne Scott, told *Inside Resources* today: "It needs someone to drive it. I see this group doing that."

Other EITAG members are: Amanda Burke (quarries, Road Metals); Fiona Bartier (coal, Bathurst Resources); Geoff Guthrie (metalliferous, OceanaGold); Iain Simmons (tunnellers, McConnell Dowell); and Michael Alsford (the industry training organisation, MITO).

"They are all people with strong training backgrounds, both in New Zealand and overseas, including Australia and the UK," Scott said.

New training programmes

When the NZQA approved the new mining and quarrying New Zealand Certificate and Diploma qualifications in 2013, there was no set course curriculum developed. That was largely due to the forthcoming WorkSafe review of CoCs, which would impact on the unit standards contained in the new programmes.

Meantime the existing National Certificate training programmes are being used by those wishing to complete the unit standards to meet the qualification requirements for a CoC.

Scott said the EITAG would provide industry experts to assist MITO develop the new training programmes. "People have been approached, and they are to be confirmed."

When developed, the programmes would be submitted to the NZQA for approval.

For Scott, measures of success are industry satisfaction with outcomes of training for the sector, and greater competency within the sector on workplace health and safety.

MITO group manager qualifications Michael Alsford said MITO welcomes the formation of the EITAG. "It is a positive step in ensuring full industry support in training programme development."

Working with government

WorkSafe and the mine and quarry workers' union, E Tu, are not members of the EITAG, but will be kept informed, Scott said. The offer remains open to those organisations to join.

The EITAG would be a conduit for working through issues around training, whether raised by industry or government agencies, including the New Zealand Mining Board of Examiners.

A specific issue is the ongoing review of CoCs, on which MinEx submitted last August.

Scott envisioned a genuine partnership with government, the common ground being that both industry and government want safer workplaces.

The EITAG will meet quarterly, or more frequently if needed, and report to the MinEx Board, and to its members via the MinEx newsletter.

There would also be communication within industry, including with Straterra, and the Aggregate and Quarry Association.

WorkSafe

Chief inspector extractives Mark Pizey said WorkSafe through the BoE would maintain a watching brief on the activities of the EITAG.

"From my perspective, any assistance that the training providers, NZQA, and MITO can gain in guidance from the industry is extremely valuable."

"The largest consumer of training would be the quarry sector. It's important that the training provision, and the material available addresses that need."

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Autonomous vehicles inevitable in mines and quarries

Cameron Massey

Leading quarry and mining equipment dealers believe it is only a matter of time until autonomous vehicles are operating widely in the industry.



Mimico general manager Chris Gray says at this stage the technology may be better suited to the civil construction sector, but he says the technology could be transferred to the mining industry soon.

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Plan needed for aggregate supply to Christchurch

Bernie Napp

The Harewood Gravel High Court appeal highlights growing pressure on aggregate supply to Greater Christchurch.



If the High Court agrees with the Environment Court on this appeal by the Road Metals-Isaac Construction joint venture, the availability of resource would reduce, even in quarry zones.

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Matt Freeman



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Organisation Factfile

Road Metals



Ownership Major Shareholders: Murray Francis 50%, Jonathan Francis 29.9%

Description Quarry owner

Operating resources Broken Hill, Corbett Road (Road Metals), Earnsclough, Hyde (Road Metals), Kilmog, more...

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