

Hitting the ground - from the new MinEx CEO

I'm now a month into this job as CEO of MinEx. The first focus is on engaging with as many of you as possible. I can only achieve improved health and safety in the extractive sector if I do it with people like you - on the ground, working in or running a quarry or mine.

After the QuarryNZ conference I attended the first five of the regional forums run by WorkSafe and





injuries. At the QuarryNZ conference I provided an update on the <u>Health and Safety template</u> which MinEx has brought together for small quarries; it includes a basic Emergency Response Plan. If you have any feedback on the template, please provide it as we want to get it finalised.

At the conference I asked how many delegates had experienced an emergency at their site; a third put their hand up. Four or five of them put up their hands

again when asked if they were well prepared. You need an Emergency Response Plan. It can be something as simple as a wall chart, laminated and on the smoko wall for everyone to see. I'm happy to email you a version to adapt.

As a quarry or mine manager, invite your local fire brigade, police and ambulance services to visit your site; much better they know the lay-out and access at a quiet time than in an emergency.

We obviously need to do so much better as an industry than seeing more than half of oral B grade CoCs failing their exams. I've started a mentoring scheme and have the first in place – in Canterbury and Dunedin. If you can help – or want help – email or text me.

And what about the future? There's plenty of talk about the proposal for a new peak body for the Extractive Sector. I'm supporting the change. My 30 years of experience in Australia included time in the Government sector. That taught



me that the extractives sector is competing for attention from politicians,

Are you mentor material?

The quarry industry is in a quandry.

Perfectly capable people are failing Oral B

Grade exams, often for want of some help
and guidance.

MinEx sees much of the solution in mentoring people to get through the exams.



Are you able to assist? To date we've got Keri Harrison from Southern Screenworks in Canterbury helping some Isaacs candidates. And Gavin Hartley from Blackhead is helping some Dunedin examinees.

We'd love to see mentors in place across the country – ASAP.

A few hours of your time may end up widening the pool of B grades and helping your own quarry or business.

Give me a bell to discuss.

Wayne 021 944 336.

Support our submission



MinEx is working with IOQNZ and AQA on a submission on the proposed changes to the

Submissions close at 5pm on Wednesday 23rd August, so you will only have 48 hours to respond and show your support.

If making your own submission, you are welcome to use the MinEx submission as a starting point.

View details of the proposed changes to the CoC requirements

View details of the proposed changes to the Unit Standards

Let's work together to achieve a safe working environment.

Changing of the guard

MinEx is temporarily losing the services of Jodi Turton who in her nearly four years Membership and Events Manager (and much more) for Straterra has provided daily support for MinEx.

Jodi finishes this week to go on maternity leave and we wish her well on her new secondment.

Stepping in is Tracy Lloyd who joins us from a similar role at KPMG.Tracy's email is tracy@straterra.co.nz

MinEx also greatly benefits from having Lynley Lewis at Straterra providing support for MinEx and for our new CEO Wayne. Lynley works hard to put our Train Brain, Safety Alerts and safety stats together, so if you have anything to add please be in touch with her at office@minex.org.nz

Quarries and mines are among 150,000 businesses that will be affected by changes coming in from December to the regulations on transporting, storing and managing hazardous substances.

These include a new mandatory requirement to keep <u>an inventory</u> of all of your hazardous substances used, handled, manufactured or stored in the workplace, including hazardous waste.

You must also have a <u>Safety Data Sheet</u> for all hazardous substances in your workplace.

The new regulations have specific requirements around providing <u>information</u>, <u>instruction</u>, <u>supervision</u> and <u>training</u> to make sure workers know how to safely use, handle and store the hazardous substances in their workplace.

And there are specific requirements for you to have an <u>Emergency preparation</u> plan.

It is important to manage the risks associated with hazardous substances and to review what you have in place to keep people healthy and safe. Eliminate the risk if this is reasonably practicable; and where it's not, minimise it. PPE is one of the ways to minimise the risks to workers posed by hazardous substances.

It's not about wholesale change. If you are complying with the current hazardous substances law, then you may not need to change much but do use the next few months to review your processes for keeping people safe around hazardous substances. Read more about what's changing in the laws.

WorkSafe will have a key new role in seeing hazardous substances are better managed to protect workers so turn to them in the first instance for advice. If you run into an issue, MinEx is here to help.

- Upstream PCBU duties and effective contractor management
- Employee engagement and participation
- The Health & Safety Performance Improvement Toolkit
- Enforceable undertakings
- An employers' duty of care post a serious incident

With speakers from

WorkSafe New Zealand | Fonterra | Landcorp | Kensington Swan | Simpson Grierson | M2PP Alliance | Deloitte | Contact Energy | Cosman Parkes

To view the full programme and to register click here.

View the Q1 2017 NZ Safety stats **Click here**

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