



New Mexico Tech

# NEW MEXICO BUREAU OF MINE SAFETY

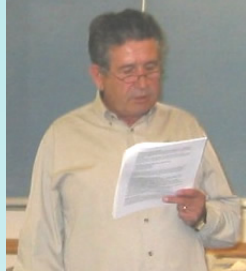
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## July 2011 Newsletter



### Guest Article

Larry Sanchez has been with the Bureau of Mine Safety for 11 years. Prior to joining BMS, Larry work 36 years in uranium, potash and coal mining. Thirty years of that was in surface and underground coal mining. He brings this wealth of experience to Part 46 and Part 48 training. Please read Larry's article on contractor training requirements.



### *Annual Refresher Training & Other Classes For Contractors*

The New Mexico MSHA state grant program, administered by the New Mexico Bureau of Mine Safety (BMS), can hold 30CFR Part 46 or Part 48 training classes throughout New Mexico for independent contractors. Classes can provide trainees with annual refresher, new miner, or experienced miner training certificates for either part 46 or 48, or for both. This makes it possible for contractors and employees of contractors to legally perform services in all surface metal, non-metal, coal, sand, and gravel operations in the State of New Mexico.

Such training must be conducted before entering sand and gravel or other types of mines and quarries. MSHA rules for surface mines require 24 hours of training for inexperienced miners, while training for experienced miners usually takes 8 hours, and an annual refresher course requires 8 hours every year for all miners. Any new task training for miners assigned to a new task and site-specific hazard awareness training will be held at the mine location.

Which training Part do you come under, Part 46, Part 48, or both? It depends upon the mine at which you're working. 30CFR Part 46 rules cover all non-metal mines, excluding gypsum mines. Surface gypsum and metal mines fall under 30CFR Part 48 training rules. All underground mines fall under Part 48 training rules, including surface areas of an underground mine. If you work at both Part 46 & Part 48

mines you need to be trained under a plan that meets both these requirements.

Both types of annual refresher training must be completed by the end of the same month the training was done the previous year.

If a contractor requires training under Part 48, a MSHA approved trainer must conduct the training. But contractors working only in Part 46 mines can be trained under the MSHA approved trainer's plan, such as our BMS plan.

Contractors who want their annual refresher training to cover both Part 46 and Part 48 rules should let the trainer know before the training starts. This will assist the contractor and the trainer in preparing a training plan that meets the requirements of both Part 46 and Part 48.

Other required subjects for contractors are familiarization with Part 62, which includes the occupational noise exposure regulations and Part 47, which is the hazard communication regulations. These are similar to the OSHA regulations. Contractors on a mine site also need access, at all times, to a person with current first aid training.

A mine operator or independent contractor currently conducting Part 48 training can easily adjust their training plan to address the Part 46 training requirements. Designate and list in a plan which MSHA approved person who will teach each subject; list the approximate time that will be spent on each subject, and describe the evaluation procedures used to determine the effectiveness of all required safety and health training.

Contractors should become familiar with the regulations by reviewing 30CFR Parts 45, 46 and 48. The regulations can be found on the MSHA website:

<http://www.msha.gov/30cfr/0.0.HTM>



### ***Fire Danger in New Mexico***

The picture above was taken of the Las Conchas fire that erupted west of Los Alamos on June 26th. The picture was taken from a point 10 miles east of Santa Fe, about 40 miles from the fire. It should not take too many images such as this to put us all on guard to take precautions to prevent wildland fires. These events are devastating to our communities, economies, and potentially our mining operations. Please continue to discuss fire safety at tool box talks and with families. Take extreme care this coming holiday weekend.

### ***Small Pool Safety***

The first U.S. study on child drownings in portable pools finds that a child dies every five days in such a pool during warm-weather months, demonstrating a considerable risk and the need for safety awareness with these pools. From 2001 through 2009 there were 209 deaths and 35 near-drownings of children under 12.. Most of the children, 94%, were under 5, and 81% of the incidents happened during summer months.

Because the pools are relatively cheap, parents would pick them up, take them home, quickly assemble them, and all this would be done without a lot of forethought about the safety aspects. The study focused on portable pools, from small wading pools less than 18 inches deep to inflatable pools and other soft-sided pools that can reach depths of four feet.

The study underscores the importance of active, undistracted adult supervision. Children were supervised by adults in fewer than half, 43%, of the drownings and near-drownings, and that most, 73%, were at home.



The report also shows CPR was administered before emergency crews arrived in 15% of the fatalities and 17% of near-drownings, numbers that help show the importance of CPR training both at work and at home.



Dr. Gary Smith, author of the study, said drownings overall represent the second-leading cause of injury deaths among young children and are different from other childhood accidents because there's no second chance. "I tell parents that drowning is quick, it's silent and it's final," he said.

### ***New Mexico Mining Safety Board***

The New Mexico Mining Safety Board met in Socorro on May 4th. The meeting initiated discussions on modifying regulations dealing with emergency notification requirements. These discussions will continue at the next meeting scheduled for 10 AM, September 15th in Albuquerque at the Workman's Comp Administration. The MSB would like to welcome its newest member John Purcell. John is a veteran of our uranium, potash and metal mines in New Mexico and is currently a Project Manager at Golder Associates Albuquerque office. John will represent New Mexico contractors who are performing many functions at our mines.

### ***Top Ten Causes of Accidents***

Liberty Mutual is a leading provider of worker compensation insurance and from their accident records they have provided their top ten causes of accidents in the workplace. The top 4 causes make up almost 50% of all workplace accidents and are accidents that rarely lead to fatalities. See page 4 of this newsletter for the report summary. It makes excellent food for thought when you are planning your next retraining.

### ***Training***

The current Training Schedule through August will be found on our web site shortly:

<http://www.bmi.state.nm.us/navTrng.htm>

We know we have had web issues the past couple months and hope to have that resolved soon.

Please take time to look it over. To schedule a class, please call Chris at (505) 553-1535.

## Mine Health and Safety is



## In New Mexico!

## Liberty Mutual Workplace Safety Index Identifies Leading Causes and Direct Cost of Workplace Accidents

The *Liberty Mutual Workplace Safety Index* provides the first ranking of the leading causes of workplace injuries and illness based on the direct costs associated with each accident cause.

The Index, which is based on data from Liberty Mutual — the country's leading provider of workers compensation insurance — the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the National Academy of Social Insurance, also provides guidelines to help employers reduce the costs generated by the top causes of workplace accidents.

### Accident Drivers

The 10 leading causes of workplace injuries and illness accounted for 88 percent of the \$38.7 billion in wage replacement and medical payments made by employers in 1998, the last year for which data is available. These leading causes include:

