



# Respirable Dust Control

June 8, 2008

Workshop conducted by:

CDC - National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health –  
Pittsburgh Research Laboratory staff and invited guests

Sponsored by:

The 12<sup>th</sup> US/North American Mine Ventilation Symposium



We wish to thank the sponsors of the 12<sup>th</sup> US/North American Mine Ventilation Symposium for hosting the workshop. In addition we would like to thank the mine owners, manufacturers, mine workers and many dedicated employees of NIOSH who help expand our knowledge of the safe and healthy production of this country's mineral resources.

**DISCLAIMER:** The findings and conclusion in this presentation have not been formally disseminated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and should not be construed to represent any agency determination policy.

## Dust Control Workshop Agenda

- 8:30 Welcome and Introduction**  
*Jay Colinet, Respiratory Hazards Control Branch, NIOSH*
- 8:40 Health Effects of Respirable Dust Exposure**  
*Dr. Lee Petsonk, Division of Respiratory Disease Studies, NIOSH*
- 9:40 Dust regulations and control strategies**  
*Jay Colinet, Respiratory Hazards Control Branch, NIOSH*
- 10:00 Break**
- 10:15 Dust controls for metal/nonmetal mining**  
*Andrew Cecala, Respiratory Hazards Control Branch, NIOSH*
- 11:15 Longwall dust control technology**  
*James Rider, Respiratory Hazards Control Branch, NIOSH*
- 12:00 Lunch**
- 1:00 Dust control for continuous mining operations**  
*Jeffrey Listak, Respiratory Hazards Control Branch, NIOSH*
- 1:45 Application of dust controls in mines**  
*Mike Dezeeuw, Twentymile Coal Company*
- 2:45 Break**
- 3:00 Real-time dust sampling instrumentation**  
*Jon Volkwein, Respiratory Hazards Control Branch, NIOSH*
- 3:30 Discussion and questions**

## Respirable Dust Control Workshop

**Goal: Reduce respirable dust exposure through the development and application of engineering controls.**



12<sup>th</sup> US/North American Mine Ventilation Symposium  
Reno, Nevada  
June 8, 2008

CDC NIOSH

## Pittsburgh Research Laboratory (PRL)



180 Employees

CDC NIOSH

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10:00	Break
10:15	Dust controls for metal/nonmetal mining <i>Andrew Cevcak, Respiratory Hazards Control Branch, NIOSH</i>
11:15	Longwall dust control technology <i>James Bader, Respiratory Hazards Control Branch, NIOSH</i>
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Dust control for continuous mining operations <i>Jeffrey Listak, Respiratory Hazards Control Branch, NIOSH</i>
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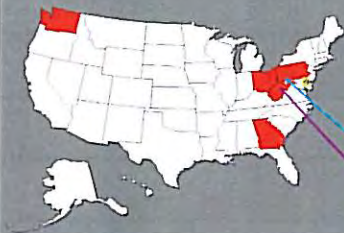
CDC NIOSH

## PRL Mission...

**To eliminate occupational diseases, injuries & fatalities from the mining workplace through a focused program of research & prevention**

CDC NIOSH

## NIOSH Locations



Washington, DC  
Atlanta, GA  
Cincinnati, OH  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Morgantown, WV  
Spokane, WA

NIOSH Staff: ~1,400

CDC NIOSH



## Respiratory Hazards Control Branch

- Mission....eliminate the adverse health effects to mine workers resulting from exposure to dust, diesel emissions and workplace contaminants.
- 30 employees
- Three focus areas
  - Dust control technology
  - Instrumentation
  - Diesel research

CDC

IOSH

## Full-scale laboratories



CDC

IOSH

## Division of Respiratory Disease Studies

Provides national and international leadership toward the identification, evaluation, and prevention of occupational respiratory disease, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and pneumoconiosis.



CDC

IOSH

## Lung Diseases of Coal Miners

### 12th U.S./North American Mine Ventilation Symposium

June 8, 2008

Edward L. Patsonk, MD, Team Leader  
Workforce Screening and Surveillance Team  
Senior Medical Officer  
Division of Respiratory Disease Studies

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## Understanding, detecting, and preventing lung disease from coal mining

- Definitions
- Causes
- Disease course
  - Role of smoking
  - Impact on life quality
- Diagnosis
- Treatment
- Prevention
- Recent findings (from medical monitoring)

## Public Health Importance

- 47,000 underground coal miners in the US
- Prevalence of CWP: recently up to 9%
- Age-adjusted mortality rate: 4.7/million/year
- Costs (1999):
  - Over \$1.5 billion in federal benefits
  - 8,000 discharges from non-federal hospitals
- Preventability: primary and secondary prevention

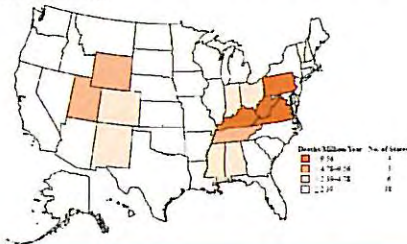
## Diseases caused by:

### Inhalation of coal mine dust and the body's reaction to it

- The Mine Act – Title IV
  - “chronic dust disease of the lung arising out of employment in an underground coal mine”

## Public Health Importance

Coal workers' pneumoconiosis: Age-adjusted death rates by state, U.S. residents age 15 and over, 1995-2004



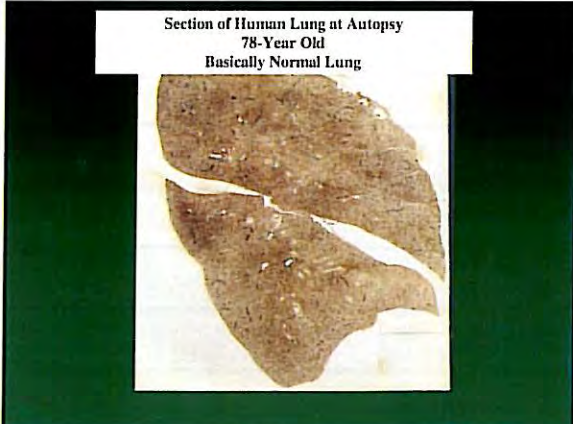
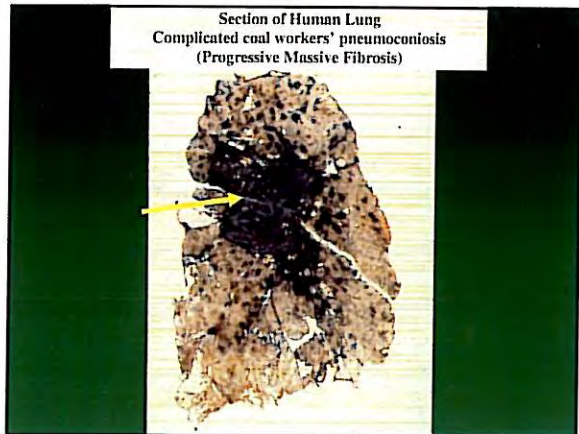
## Diseases caused by:

### Inhalation of coal mine dust and the body's reaction to it

- Fibrotic diseases – damage/destroy lung tissue
  - Silicosis
  - Coal workers' pneumoconiosis “CWP”
- Airflow diseases “COPD” – block movement of air in and out of lungs
  - Bronchitis
  - Emphysema
  - Mineral dust airway disease
- Infectious diseases – dust reduces immunity
  - Tuberculosis in other countries, previously in U.S.




### Diseases Caused by Inhalation of coal mine dust

- Fibrotic lung diseases
  - Silicosis
  - Coal workers' pneumoconiosis
- Both diseases:
  - Similar patterns on chest x-ray
  - Simple and Complicated forms
  - Complicated = Progressive Massive Fibrosis (PMF)




### Diseases Caused by Inhalation of coal mine dust

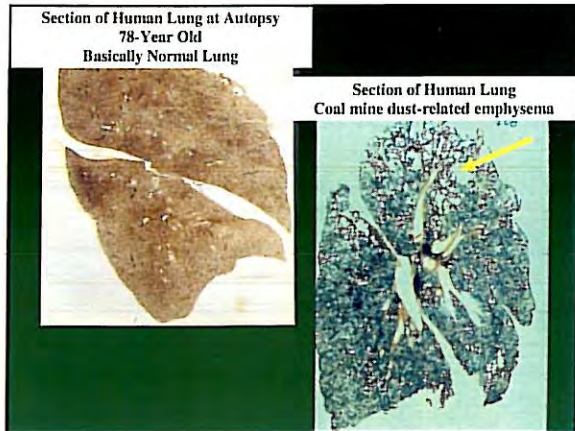
- Airflow obstructive diseases "COPD"
  - Bronchitis
  - Mineral dust airway disease
  - Emphysema



If a miner has emphysema –  
Air is trapped in the lung



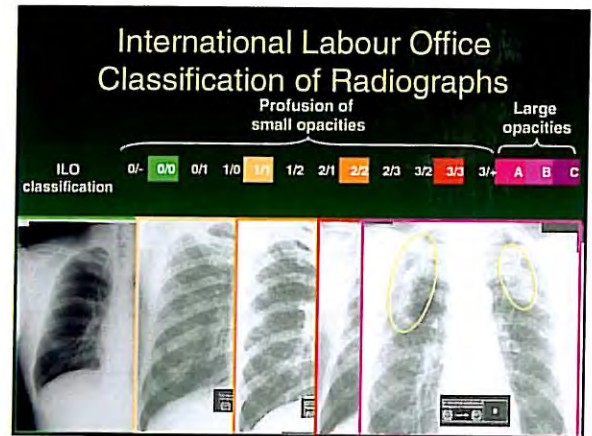



### Course of Dust Disease in Miners

- Symptoms
- Physical examination
- Breathing tests
- X-rays

All findings may be **NORMAL** in early disease

Death: **respiratory failure** or **heart failure**



### Course of Dust Disease in Miners

- Symptoms
  - Cough, phlegm, wheeze
  - Shortness of breath
  - Swelling
- Physical examination
  - Lung sounds often normal until late
  - Heart failure, fluid retention
- Breathing tests
  - Decreased breathing capacity
  - Low oxygen uptake

### Course of Dust Disease in Miners

- Development and progression depend on
  - Level of respirable dust exposure
  - Toxicity of dust
  - Age of miner and years of mining
  - Clearance of dust from the lung
  - Other diseases/exposures/complications
- Miners often develop more than one disease



### Among Smoking Miners: Impact of Tobacco Smoking on Dust Diseases

- Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis and Silicosis
  - Smoking does not cause these diseases
  - Smoking does not accelerate progression
- Airway obstructive diseases
  - Both smoking and dust can cause these diseases
  - Lung damage from smoking adds to damage caused by dust

### Prevention of Dust Disease in Coal Miners

- Reduce the level of dust exposure \*\*\*
- Reduce the toxicity of the dust
- Allow time for dust to clear from lungs

### Diagnosis of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis

- History of inhalation of coal mine dust
- Latency period usually 10 years or more
- Radiographic pattern of abnormality
- Lung function test results
- Other medical history
- No specific findings on lung examination

### Prevention of Dust Disease in Coal Miners

- Reduce the level of dust exposure \*\*\*
  - Continuous attention to effective controls
  - Accurate and extensive dust monitoring
    - Personal continuous dust monitoring
  - Respirators when dust levels exceed PELs
    - Least reliable approach to reducing exposure



### Treatment of Dust Disease in Coal Miners

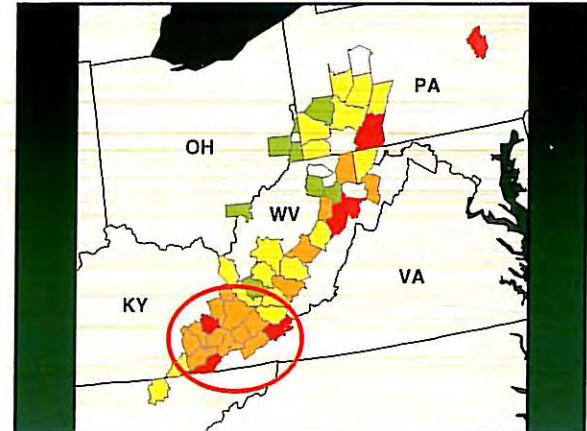
- No medication can reverse dust damage
- Treatment directed at reducing symptoms and prevention of complications
  - Vaccines against flu and pneumonia
  - Antibiotics for infections and congestion
  - Bronchodilators for airway spasm
  - Oxygen supplementation
  - Treatment for heart failure
- Lung/heart transplant

### Prevention of Dust Disease in Coal Miners

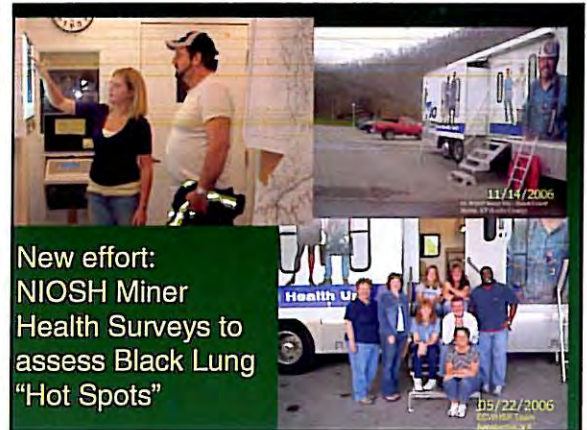
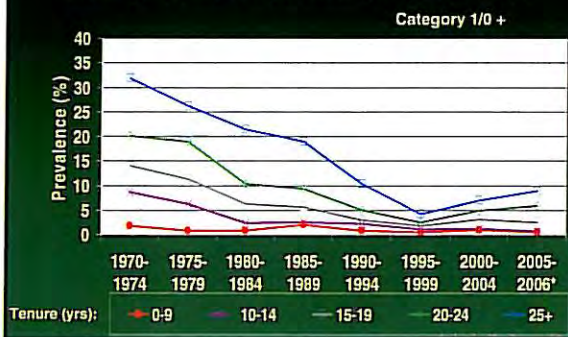
- Reduce the level of dust exposure \*\*\*
- Reduce the toxicity of the dust
  - Silica is 20 times more toxic than coal
  - Reduce potential exposures to silica (drilling/cutting rock)
  - Reduce fresh fractured rock/coal exposures
  - Smaller particles are more toxic

## Prevention of Dust Disease in Coal Miners

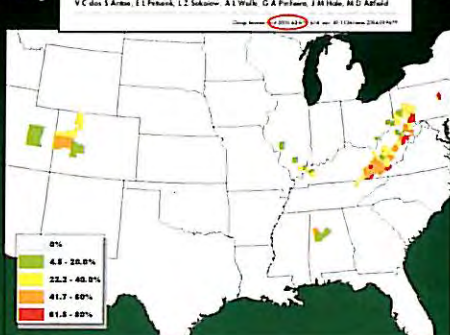
- Reduce the level of dust exposure \*\*\*
- Reduce the toxicity of the dust
- Allow time for dust to clear from lungs
  - Long shifts and extended work weeks
    - Increases dust inhaled
    - Reduces time between shifts to clear dust from lungs



Trends in coal workers' pneumoconiosis prevalence by tenure among examinees employed at underground coal mines, U.S. National Coal Workers' X-Ray Surveillance Program, 1970-2006



## Rapidly Progressive Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis in the United States: Geographic Clustering and Other Factors



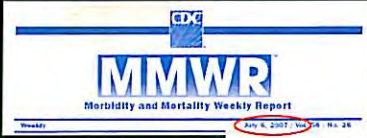
MMWR  
Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Weekly August 25, 2006 / Vol. 55 / No. 33

Advanced Cases of Coal Workers' Pneumoconiosis — Two Counties, Virginia, 2006

This report describes 11 newly identified cases of advanced coal workers' pneumoconiosis (CWP), including progressive massive fibrosis (PMF), in working coal miners from Lee and Wise counties in southwestern Virginia. PMF is a disabling and irreversible condition. Radiographs are classified by NIOSH-certified Board members according to the International Labour Office (ILO) International Classification of Radiographs of Pneumoconiosis (1).

NIOSH teams are traveling through southern Appalachia — and have found more miners with advanced and rapidly progressive black lung disease





Advanced Pneumoconiosis Among Working Underground Coal Miners

- 37 newly reported cases of advanced lung disease from dust in underground coal miners
- Silicosis versus CWP ?
- Advanced pneumoconiosis is developing under the enforcement regime of the 1969 Act
- Findings indicates gaps in regulations or procedures used to control dust

Thanks to the Staff -  
who do the work of NIOSH!

"The first priority and concern of all in the coal or other mining industry must be the health and safety of its most precious resource - the miner."  
*Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969 - amended in 1977*

In 2002, 27 deaths from coal mining accidents – and 854 deaths from black lung.

We can't eliminate dust in coal mining.  
But by controlling dust we can eliminate cases of advanced black lung!




## Dust Regulations and Control Strategies

Jay Colinet  
Respiratory Hazards Control Branch

12<sup>th</sup> US/ North American Mine Ventilation Symposium  
Reno, Nevada  
June 8, 2008

CDC West

### Metal/Nonmetal dust sampling

- 10 mg/m<sup>3</sup> total airborne dust standard
- If silica > 1%, calculate respirable dust standard
- $10 / (\% \text{Quartz} + 2) = \text{respirable standard}$
- Periodic sampling not required by mine

CDC West

### Respirable dust standard for coal mining

2.0 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

If silica > 5%, reduced standard =  $10 / (\% \text{ silica})$

CDC West

### Personal Dust Sampler

Coal – 2 lpm

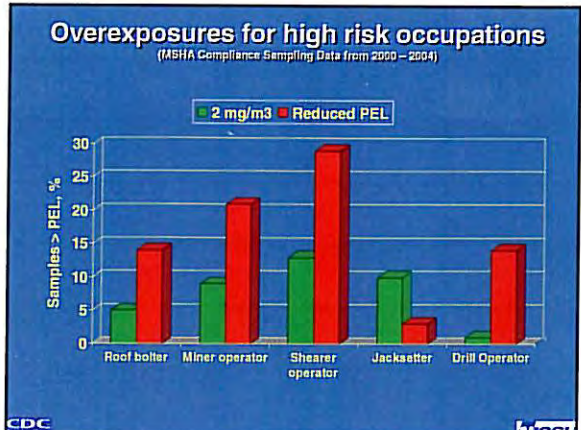
Metal/Nonmetal – 1.7 lpm

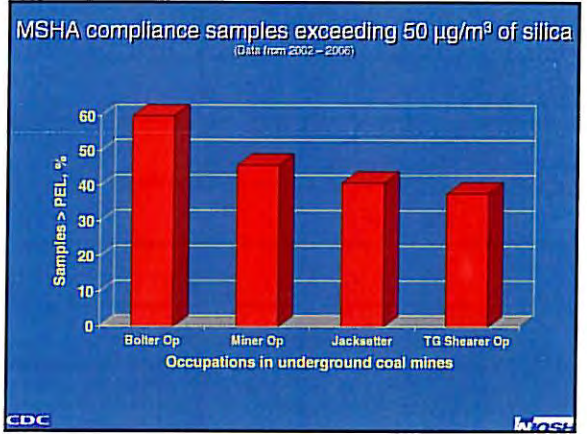
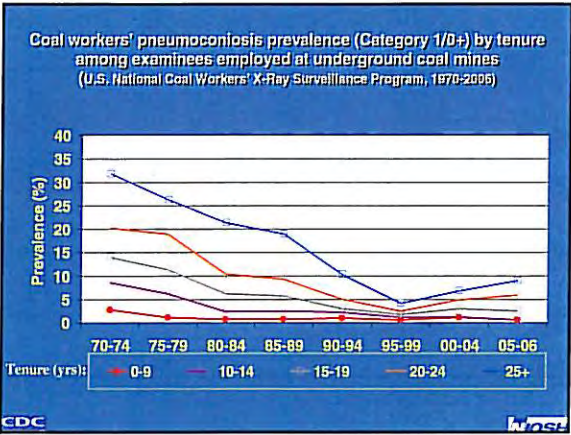
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### Sampling requirements for coal mines

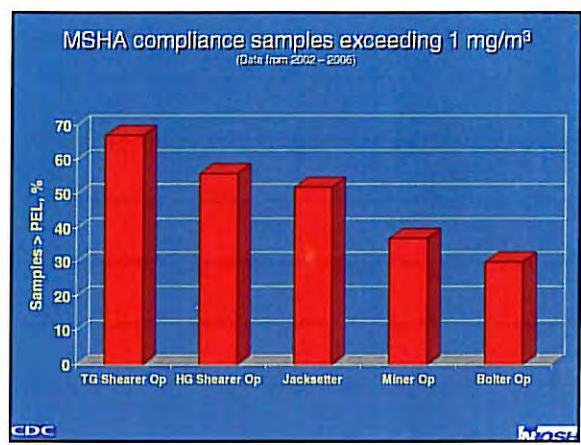
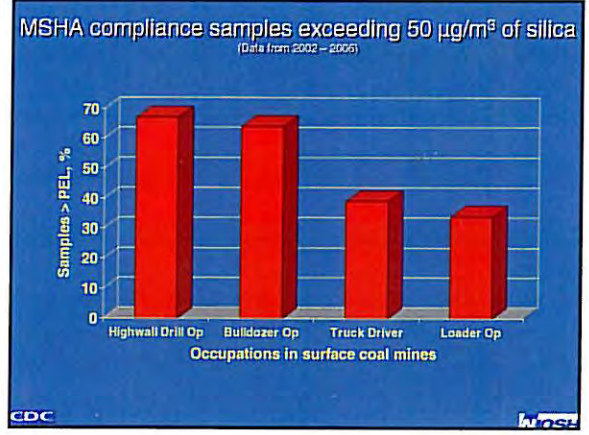
- MSHA inspector samples multiple occupations to identify Designated Occupation (DO)
- MSHA samples each MMU four times per year
- Operator samples DO for five shifts on bi-monthly basis

CDC West





- Proposed S-Miner legislation**
- Reduces coal dust standard to 1  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$
  - Establishes silica dust standard of 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
  - Requires use of PDM for compliance sampling
- CDC WOST



- Approaches to Dust Control**
- Minimize dust liberation
    - Cutting
    - Wetting
    - Enclosures
  - Direct dust clouds away from workers
    - Air velocity
    - Directional sprays
    - Barriers or avoidance
  - Reduce airborne dust levels
    - Dilution
    - Capture
- CDC WOST

### Cutting - minimize dust generation



### Confine - modified collector dump on surface drill



### Impact of water sprays on dust

- Suppression (volume)
- Redirection (pressure)
- Airborne capture (type & pressure)



### Approach to Dust Control

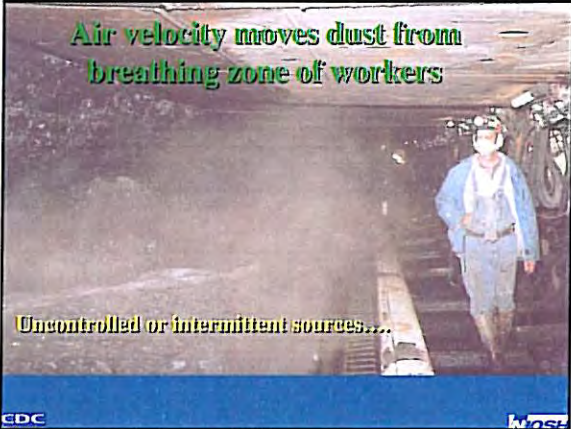
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  - Dilution
  - Capture

### Confine and wet at crusher-stageloader



### Lack of air movement allows dust to build...

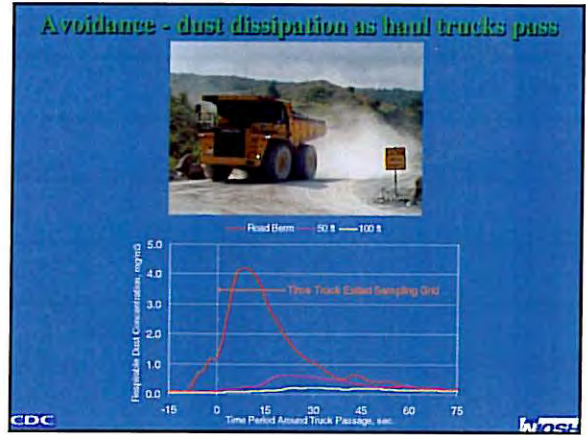
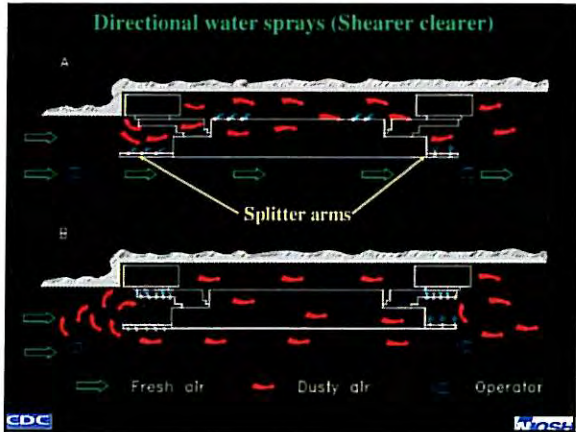




### Dust avoidance

- worker positioning (ventilation)
- worker rotation
- personal protective equipment

CDC Wost



### Approach to Dust Control

- Minimize dust liberation
  - Cutting
  - Wetting
  - Enclosures
- Direct dust clouds away from workers
  - Air velocity
  - Directional sprays
  - Barriers or avoidance
- Reduce airborne dust levels
  - Dilution
  - Capture

CDC Wost

### Dilution - maximize air quantity to mining faces

**Gob curtain**

**Belt air**

**Limestone mines**

CDC West

**Thank you!**

**Questions???**

**Jay Colinet**  
 412-386-6825  
 jcolinet@cdc.gov

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### Capture - powered dust collectors

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### Commitment to dust control

- Worker and management involvement
- Knowledge and attitude (safety is immediate vs. health is long term)
- Maintenance is critical

CDC West





# Dust Control for Metal/Nonmetal Mining

## Respirable Dust Control Workshop

12<sup>th</sup> U.S./North American Mine Ventilation Symposium

Sunday, June 8, 2008

### Improving The Air Quality in Enclosed Cabs of Mobile Equipment









## Silicosis Prevention

### PROGRAM ELEMENTS

#### Commitment

- Dust Surveillance
- Medical Surveillance
- Control of Dust Exposure
- Employee Involvement
- Smoking Cessation



**Dozers**      **Shovels**      **Loaders**      **Haul Trucks**













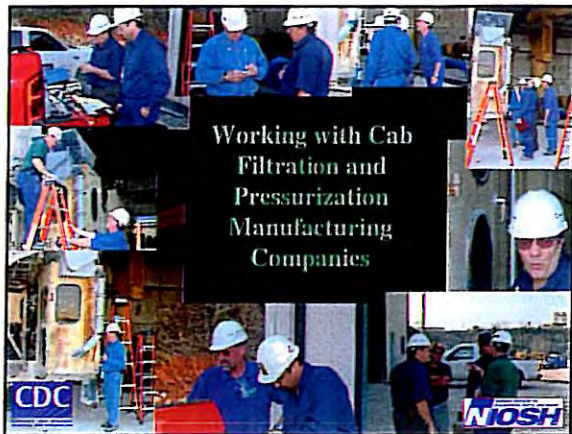

### Research to be Presented

- Improving The Air Quality in Enclosed Cabs of Mobile Equipment
- Clothes Cleaning System
- Low Velocity Exhaust Ventilation System (LEVS)
- Total Mill Ventilation System (TMVS)
- Background Dust Sources
- Reducing Dust Levels in Iron Ore Processing Plant
- IMA-NA/NIOSH Mineral Processing Dust Control Handbook




## Drills



Working with Cab  
Filtration and  
Pressurization  
Manufacturing  
Companies

### Davey M8B Drill Study

#### BASELINE

- Floor heater
- No AC or filtration system



#### MODIFICATIONS

- Roof mounted heating & AC unit
- External filter, fan unit, & re-circulation filter
- Poorly sealed cab enclosure with no positive pressure achieved



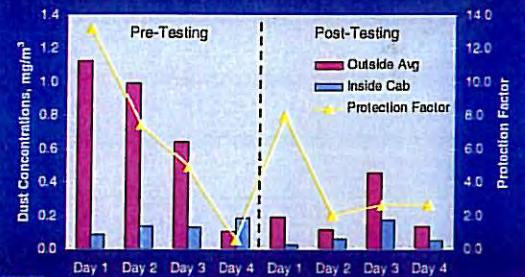
### RELATIVE PERFORMANCE MEASURES

$$PF = \frac{C_o}{C_i} ; \eta = \frac{C_o - C_i}{C_o} ; Pen = 1 - \eta$$

$$PF = \frac{C_o}{C_i} = \frac{1}{1 - \eta} = \frac{1}{Pen}$$

### Respirable Dust Results

Insignificant change, from 0.14 to 0.08 mg/m<sup>3</sup>



### Comparison of Cab Performance Measures

Protection Factor	Efficiency, Pct.	Penetration, Pct.
2	50	50
5	80	20
10	90	10
100	99	1
1000	99.9	0.1

### CAT 980B Front-End Loader Study

#### BASELINE

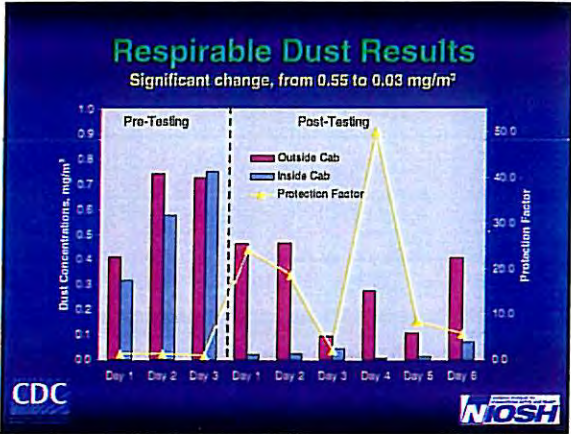
- Floor heater
- No AC or filtration system



#### MODIFICATIONS

- Roof mounted heating & AC unit
- External filters, fan unit, & re-circulation filter
- Sealed cab enclosure & achieved 0.015" w.g. positive pressure

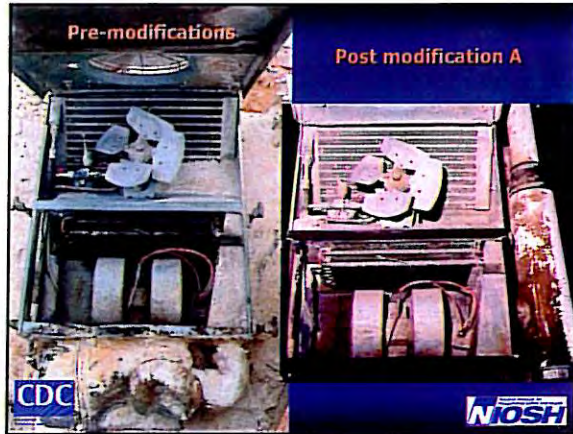
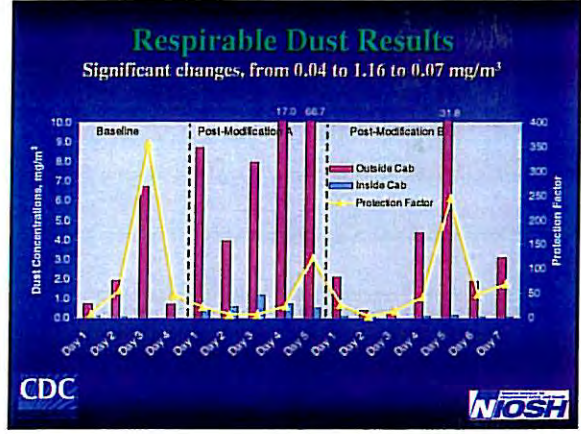




### Problem Identified – Floor Heaters

- Respirable dust level increase from 0.04 to 0.68 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Optical Particle Counter in shop - dust levels increased from 0.03 to 0.26 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

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### Ingersoll-Rand DM 45E Drill

**BASELINE**

- Older filtration unit not in good working order.

**MODIFICATIONS**

- Roof mounted heating & AC unit
- External filters, fan unit, & re-circulation filter
- Achieved cab pressure of between 0.2 and -0.4"

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- Average respirable dust level from 0.64 to 0.05 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Protection factor increased from 12 to 56
- Silica exposure went from 57 micrograms to less than 4.

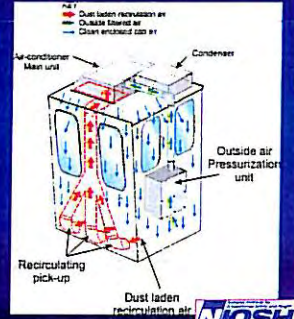
CDC

NIOSH

## Cooperative Research Effort Uni-directional airflow design

Sy-Klone International  
Clean Air Filter Company

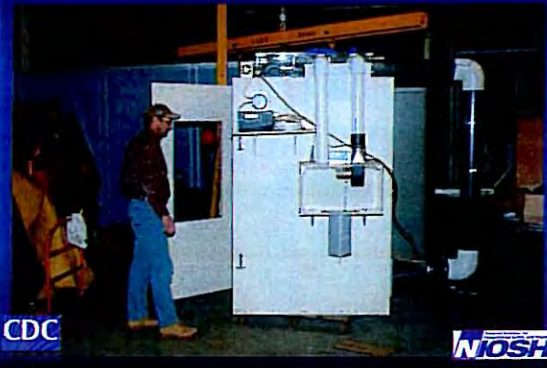
Both Sy-Klone & Clean Air Filter are donating their time and costs associated with this research effort.



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## Laboratory Test Chamber



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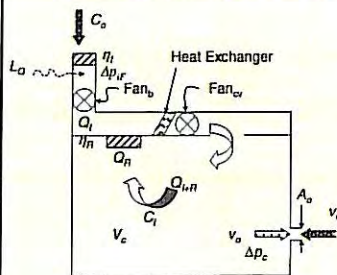
## Vulcan's Southern and Gulf Coast Division Birmingham, Alabama



CDC

NIOSH

## Laboratory study to optimize cab filtration and pressurization parameters



$\eta_i$  = Intake Filter Efficiency  
 $\Delta p_F$  = Pressure Across Filter  
 $Q_i$  = Intake Quantity  
 $L_c$  = Leak Quantity  
 $\eta_r$  = Recirculation Filter Eff.  
 $Q_r$  = Return Quantity  
 $V_c$  = Cab Volume  
 $C_o$  = Outside Concentration  
 $C_i$  = Inside Concentration  
 $v_v$  = Air Velocity Discharged  
 $A_b$  = Cab Leakage Area  
 $\Delta p_c$  = Pressure Across Cab  
 $v_w$  = Wind Velocity

CDC

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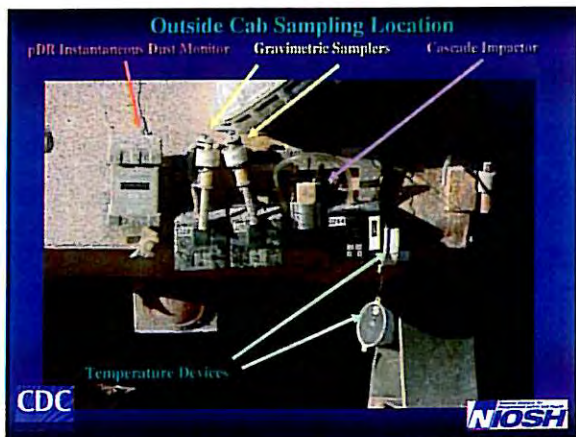
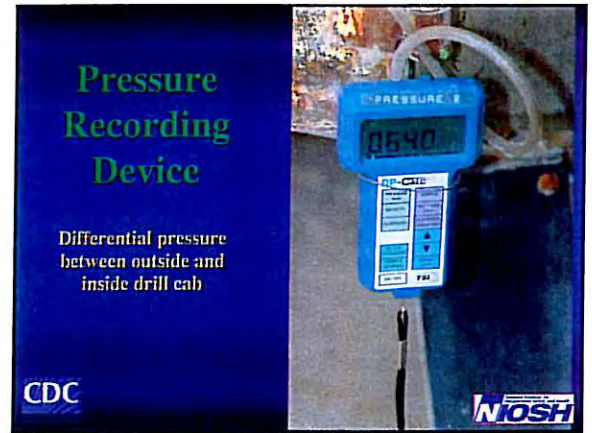
## Baseline Testing

Sept. 26-28, 2006



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NIOSH



Installation of one-directional flow filtration & pressurization system – October 2006

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One-directional filtered airflow inside the enclosed cab

Post-Testing  
Dec. 12-14, 2006

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Two Sy-Klone Gideon pre-filter units

Removes oversized particles through centrifugal separation

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Poor dust sampling conditions

(surface water & wet drill holes)

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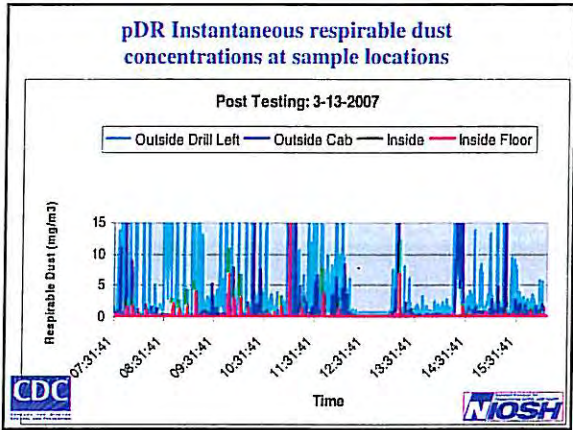
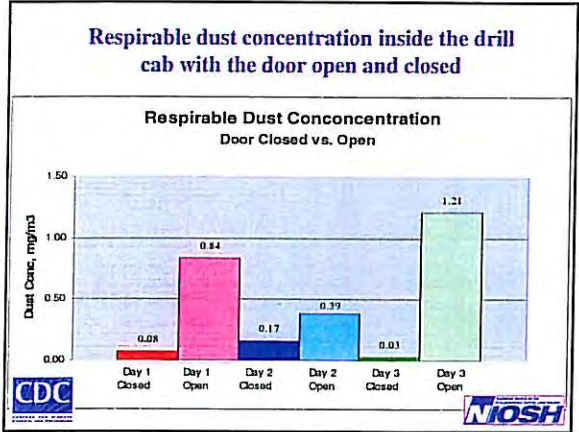
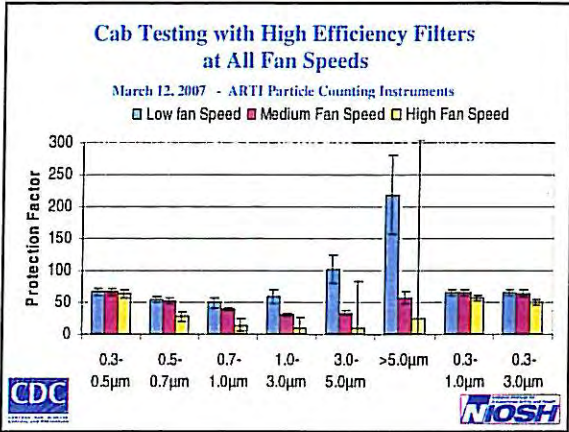
Hour meter – filter life.  
Pressure and velocity indicator  
to inform drill operator that  
filter needs to be changed.

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Testing During Actual  
Drilling

March 13-15, 2007

CDC NIOSH

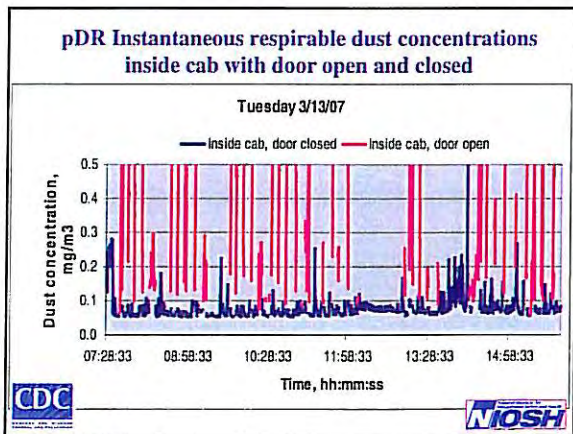


### Average Dust Conc. (3 days)

Door Closed: 0.09 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

Door Open: 0.81 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

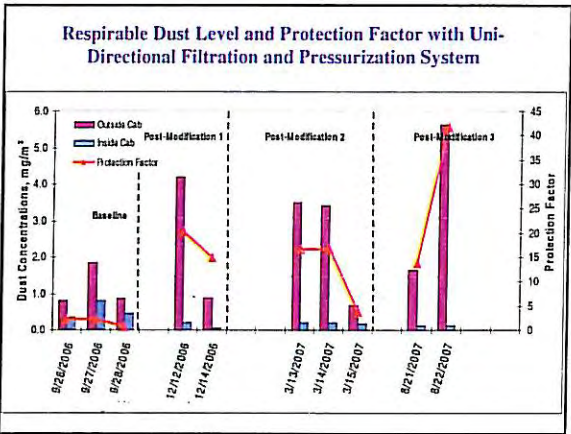
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### Post Test #3

August 21-22, 2007

CDC NIOSH



## Clothes Cleaning System

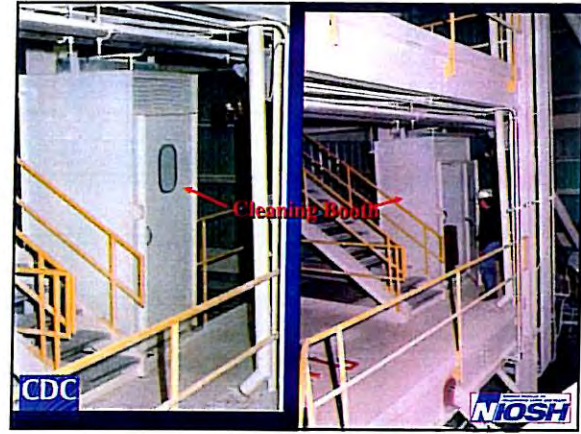
A safe and effective method for removing dust from work clothes

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### Keys for Effective Enclosed Cab Dust Control

- Filtered ventilation
  - Recirculated cab air
  - Outside air
- Cab integrity
  - Replace door seals
  - Plug holes in cab
- Develop positive pressure

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### Research Efforts in Enclosed Cabs

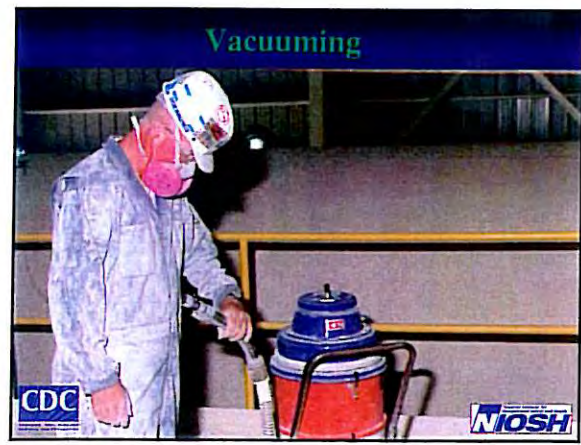
**Manufacturers/Government:**

- Clean Air Filter Company
- Red Dot Corp.
- Bergstrom Air International Transil-Sigma Air Condition
- SCS TriGate
- SV-KLONI International Inc.
- John Deere Product Engineering Center
- Nalco Manufacturing
- Red Dot Corporation
- California EPA
- Mine Safety and Health Administration

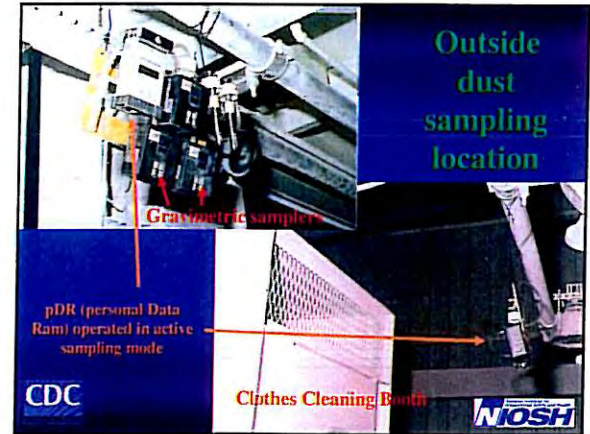
**Companies:**

- U.S. Silica Company
- Al Hamilton Contracting Company
- Inolex Energy, Inc.
- Leslie Resources
- Powder River Coal Company
- Vulcan Materials Corporation

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## Testing Procedures

Dust Sampling Locations:

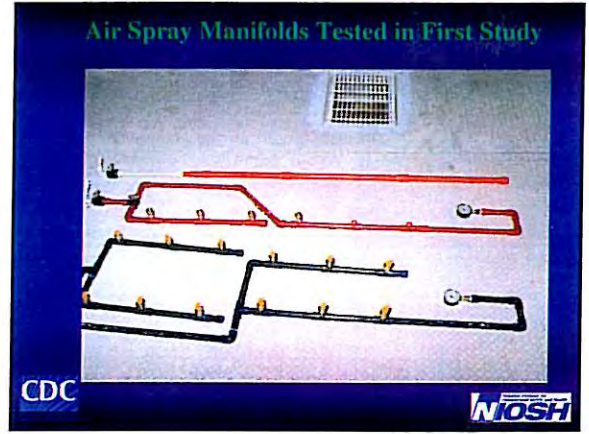
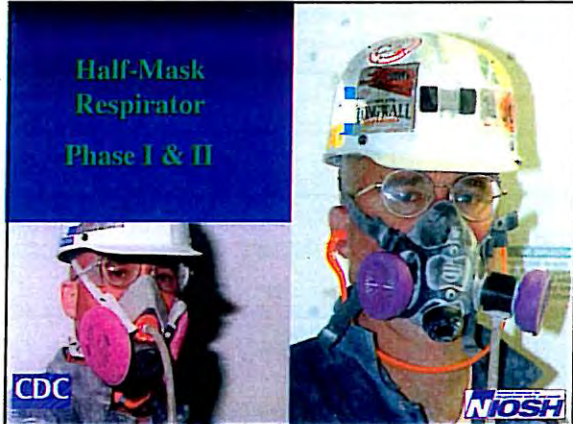
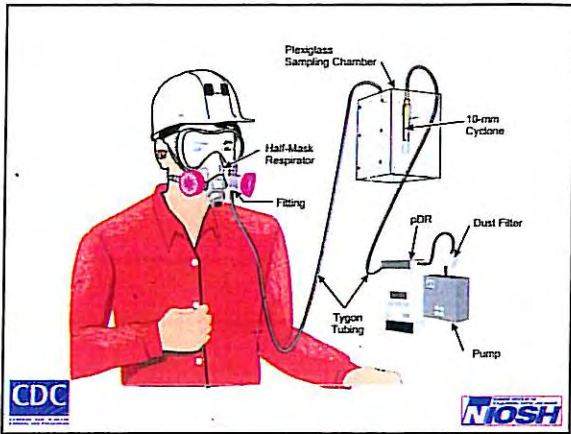
- Outside cleaning booth
- Inside cleaning booth
- PPE of worker

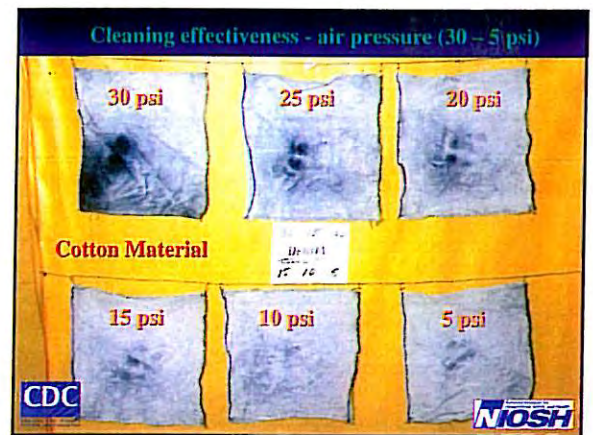
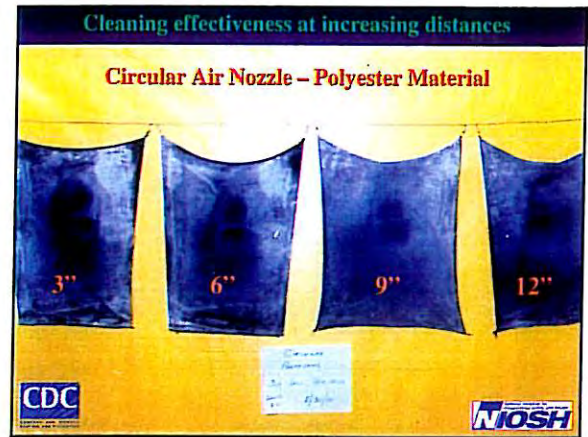
Clothes Cleaning Effectiveness:

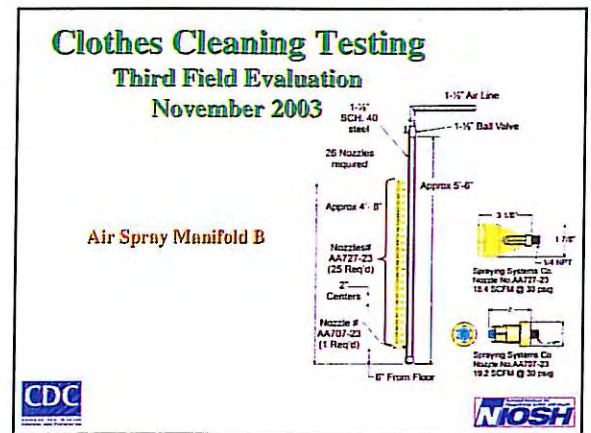
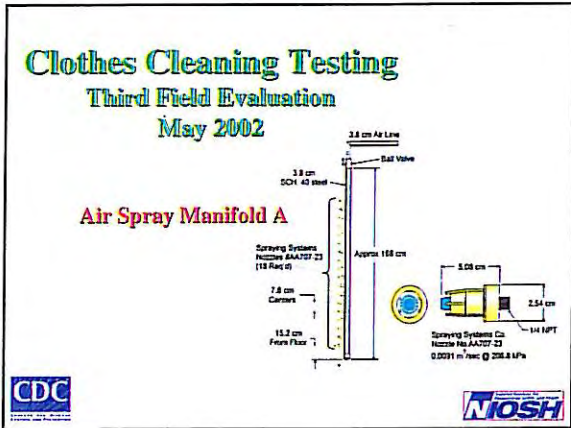
Weighing procedures to determine weight loss to coveralls for three cleaning methods (vacuuming, air hose, & air nozzle manifold.)

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**Air hose**  
Cleaning Time:  
3 minutes 6 seconds

Pre-Cleaning  
Post-Cleaning

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### Cleaning Effectiveness and Time for Air Spray Manifold A & B

Poly Blend Coveralls

Cleaning Method	Remaining Weight, grams	Time, seconds
Air Spray Manifold A	38.7 n = 48	27
Air Spray Manifold B	29.7 n = 48	17

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**Air Spray Manifold B**  
Cleaning Time:  
17 seconds

Pre-Cleaning  
Post-Cleaning

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### Statistical Analysis (ANOVA, Tukey's test, t-test)

- No statistical difference between air hose and vacuuming.
- Statistical difference between Air Spray Manifold A and air hose.
- Statistical difference between Air Spray Manifold A and vacuuming.
- Statistical difference between Air Spray Manifold A and Air Spray Manifold B.
- Polyester/cotton blend type coveralls were significantly cleaner than 100 pct. cotton type.

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### Cleaning Effectiveness and Time for Three Clothes Cleaning Methods

Cleaning Method	Cotton Coveralls		Poly Blend Coveralls	
	Remaining Weight, grams	Time, seconds	Remaining Weight, grams	Time, seconds
Vacuuming	63.1 n = 12	393	45.5 n = 12	349
Air Hose	68.8 n = 12	183	48.4 n = 12	173
Air Spray Manifold A	46.3 n = 12	25	36.2 n = 36	27

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### Noise Measurement - Dosimeter

General Mill Levels:	91.5 dB
Inside Booth – not operating:	86.5 dB
Inside Booth – operating	101.4 dB
Outside Booth – operating	91.4 dB
Outside Booth – not operating	90.6 dB

\* Hearing protection is required when using clothes cleaning system.

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**Health and Safety Requirements for using clothes cleaning technique**

**CLOTHES CLEANING PROCESS BEFORE ENTERING BOOTH**

**REQUIRED PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:**

- 1/2 FACE, FIT-TESTED RESPIRATOR W/ NEO FILTER
- HEARING PROTECTION
- EYE PROTECTION (VITAL SEAL GOGGLES REQUIRED)

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### Federal Regulations

- **CFR Part 56.13020** - "At no time shall compressed air be directed toward a person. When compressed air is used, all necessary precautions shall be taken to protect persons from injury." (Notification submitted to MSHA District Manager informing of test program)
- **29 CFR 1910.242(b)** - "Compressed air shall not be used for cleaning purposes except where reduced to less than 30 p.s.i. and then only with effective chip guard and personal protective equipment."

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**Video Tape & Instructional Document**

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### Clothes Cleaning System Stand-Alone Design

- ✓ Most facilities will not have the luxury of having excess baghouse capacity.
- ✓ Installation of a baghouse is very costly.
- ✓ Exhaust dust from booth outside plant – up stack.
- ✓ EPA opacity measurement (should not see visible plume except for extremely brief periods).

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### Clothes Cleaning Video

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### Modification - Exhaust air outside

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**Field Tested**  
August 2006  
Manufactured by S.K. Bowling Company

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**Cleaning Effectiveness: Test Subject 2 (18 seconds)**

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**CLOTHING CLEANING PROCESS**

1. WEAR DESIGNATED PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) (Respirator, Goggles, Gloves, Boots)
2. TURN AROUND & CHECK BACK FOR CONTAMINATION
3. REMOVE SUIT & PLACE IN BOOTH
4. REMOVE SUIT & PLACE IN BOOTH
5. REMOVE SUIT & PLACE IN BOOTH
6. REMOVE SUIT & PLACE IN BOOTH
7. REMOVE SUIT & PLACE IN BOOTH
8. REMOVE SUIT & PLACE IN BOOTH
9. REMOVE SUIT & PLACE IN BOOTH
10. REMOVE SUIT & PLACE IN BOOTH

SYSTEM READY    I AM WEARING THE REQUIRED PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT    START CLEANING CYCLE

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**Commercialization of Clothes Cleaning System**

- SK Bowling is manufacturing the system and is forming a new company called Clothes Cleaning Systems, Inc.
- Started national advertising of this system in many major mining/industrial hygiene journals in April 08.
- Approximately 10 units have been sold to date with 20 quotes out for additional units including in Australia and England.

The Clothes Cleaning Booth was developed through a cooperative research effort between NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) and Unimin Corporation, an industrial minerals mining company. NIOSH is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. More details of this project and a video are at their website. ([www.cdc.gov/niosh](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh))

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**Cleaning Effectiveness: Test Subject 1 (18 seconds)**

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CDC NIOSH

## Unimin/NIOSH Clothes Cleaning Research Effort:

- The air spray manifold designed under this cooperative study statistically cleaned better than the MSHA recommended HEPA vacuuming or single air hose techniques.

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NIOSH

## Unimin/NIOSH Clothes Cleaning Research Effort:

- The air spray manifold designed under this cooperative study statistically cleaned better than the MSHA recommended HEPA vacuuming or single air hose techniques.
- Verified that a worker wearing a half mask respirator (NI100 filters), hearing protection, and full seal goggles could safely perform this technique without any increased health/safety risks.
- Determined that polyester/cotton blend material cleaned more effectively than 100 pct. cotton material.
- Verified that when this clothes cleaning technique was performed in a cleaning booth under negative pressure at an exhaust volume of 2,000 cfm, it did not create any increased risk of dust or noise exposure to the work environment or co-workers.

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CDC

NIOSH

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- Verified that when this clothes cleaning technique was performed in a cleaning booth under negative pressure at an exhaust volume of 2,000 cfm, it did not create any increased risk of dust or noise exposure to the work environment or co-workers.
- Designed, tested, and received MSHA approval on a system that exhausted to a LEV system and one that was ducted outside the facility.

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## Unimin/NIOSH Clothes Cleaning Research Effort:

- The air spray manifold designed under this cooperative study statistically cleaned better than the MSHA recommended HEPA vacuuming or single air hose techniques.
- Verified that a worker wearing a half mask respirator (NI100 filters), hearing protection, and full seal goggles could safely perform this technique without any increased health/safety risks.
- Determined that polyester/cotton blend material cleaned more effectively than 100 pct. cotton material.

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## In the Future!

- That MSHA will change the Code of Federal Regulation to incorporate the use of this technique.
- This clothes cleaning technique will become a common operating practice to clean worker clothing at mineral processing operations.

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## Low Velocity Exhaust Ventilation System





UNIMIN Corporation

CDC NIOSH




CDC NIOSH


## High Velocity Low Velocity

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## High Velocity Disadvantages


- High Electrical Cost
  - Large pressure drop
    - Larger fan required
    - Increased power requirement
    - Greater energy consumption



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## High Velocity Disadvantages


- High Wear and Maintenance Costs
  - Abrasive wear by larger dust particles at high speed
  - Particularly at elbows & branch entries



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## Low Velocity Characteristics

Low Velocity Does NOT mean Low Airflow!!!!  
Ventilation is the SAME in either transport system.



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## Low Velocity Characteristics

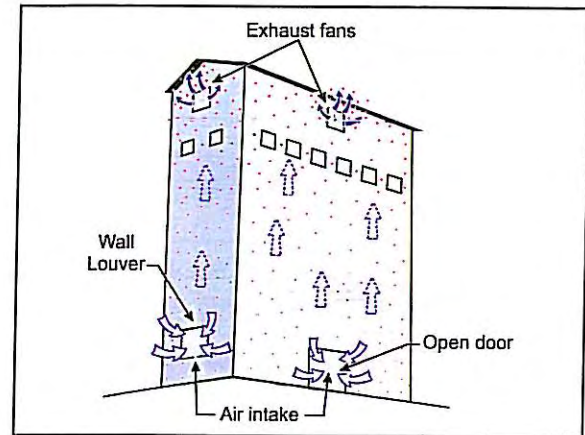
“Saw tooth” duct design

Minimum upflow angle is 45° and downflow angle is 30°



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## Low Velocity Advantages

- Lower Wear and Maintenance Cost
  - Smaller sized suspended particles and low particle velocity
    - Less abrasion
    - Able to use short radius and mitered elbows without noticeable wear
- Lower Energy Cost
  - Reduced friction losses
  - Reduced pressure drop



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## Evaluation Site - Clay Processing Structure

- Three, 8,500 cfm roof exhaustors
- 25,500 cfm system, 10 ACPH
- Three wall louvers – inlet for makeup air



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## Total Mill Ventilation System



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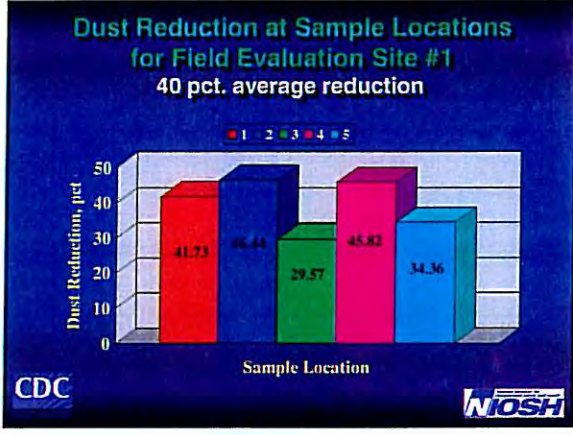
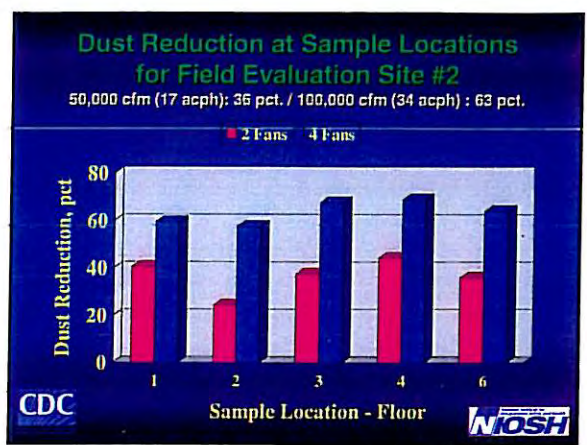
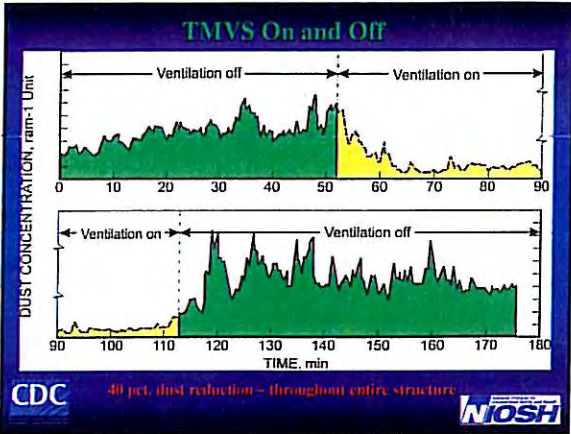
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Wall Louvers for intake air.



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### Site #2

100,000 cfm system,  
34 ACPH

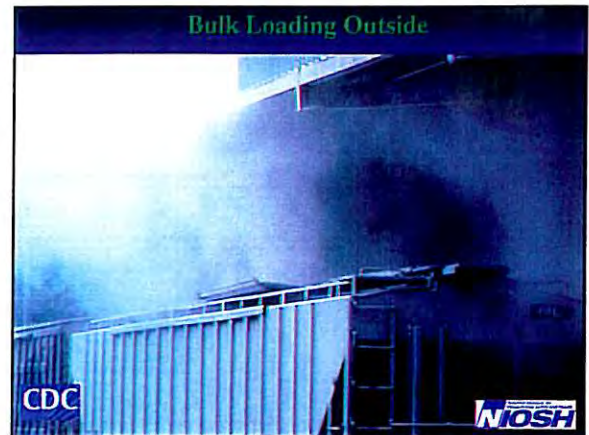
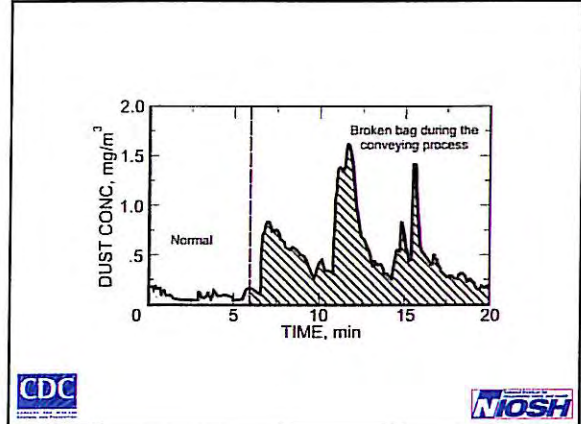
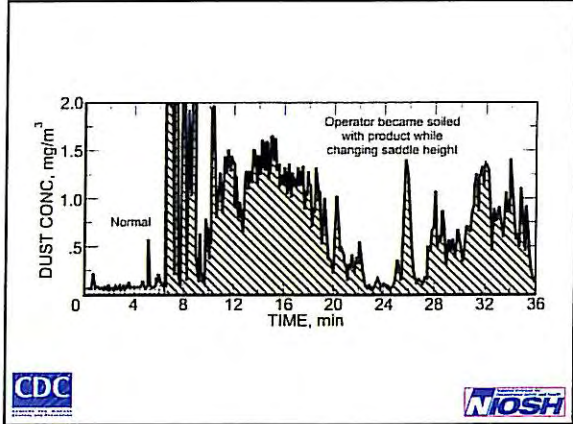
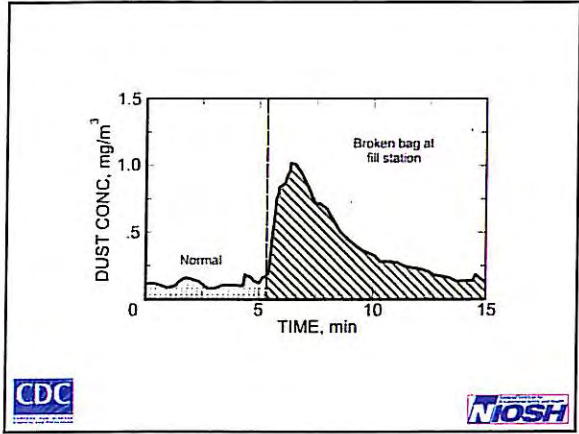
Four 25,000 cfm  
propeller type wall  
exhaustors

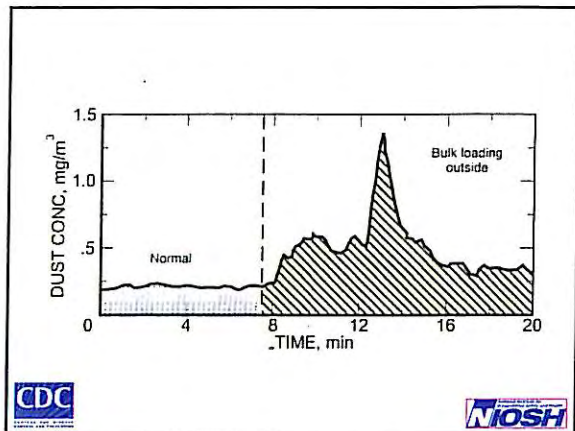
Open bay doors - inlet  
for makeup air

Cost: \$6,000 - Material  
& Installation (Inhouse)

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## Background Dust Sources

- Aware of Problem
- Identify the Problem
- Control the Problem

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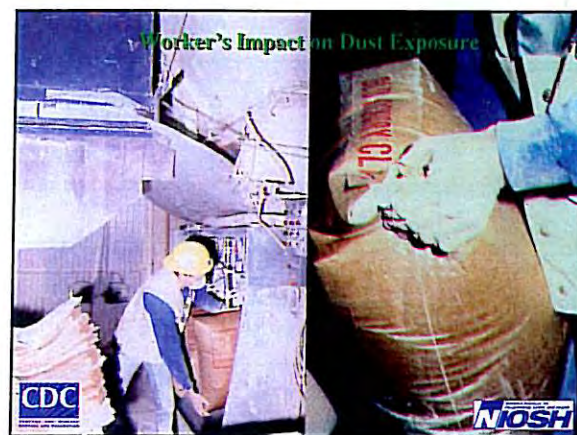
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## Increase in Worker's Dust Exposure from Secondary Dust Sources

CASE	Increase Factor	TLV Exposure Time
Contaminated Work Clothes	10.1	1 hr 35 min
Blowing Clothes with Compressed Air	2.4	3 hr 33 min
Broken Bag (Fill Station)	3.2	4 hr 34 min
Broken Bag (Conveyor)	6.9	3 hr 20 min
Bulk Loading Outside	2.5	3 hr 48 min
Bag Hopper Overflowing	12.2	2 hr 11 min
Dry Sweeping Floor	5.7	9 hr 24 min

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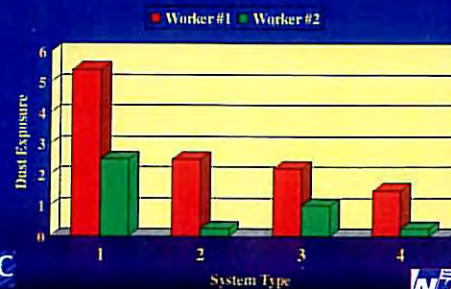
## Number of Occurrence from Secondary Dust Sources to Over-expose Workers

Sources of Dust	Estimated Occurrences Exceed TLV
Contaminated Work Clothes	1
Bag Breakage During Filling	14-18
Bag Breakage During Conveying	6-10
Bulk Loading Outside	3-4
Bag Hopper Overflowing	3-4

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## Comparison of Dust Exposures Due to Different Work Practices

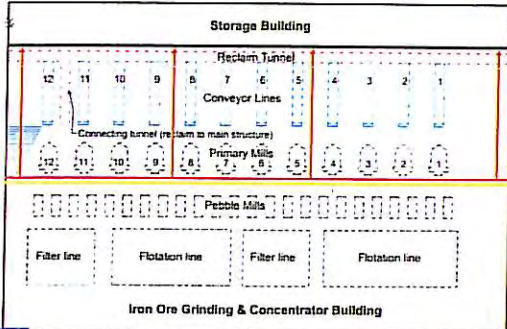


## Reducing Dust Levels in Iron Ore Processing Plant




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### High respirable dust levels – respirator requirement zone



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### Unique Facility:



940,000 ft<sup>3</sup> (87,300 m<sup>3</sup>) structure with an internal air volume of  
45,000,000 ft<sup>3</sup> (1,274,000 m<sup>3</sup>)



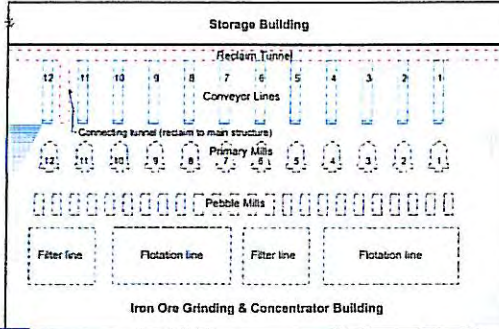
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### Instrumentation

Most extensive sampling setup ever used by dust branch in 25 years





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### Respirable Dust Measurements



MIE Inc. personal Data RAM (pDR)

2 Gravimetric Samplers

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### Airflow Measurements

"Solent Volometer" (Gill Instruments Ltd): ultrasonic anemometer  
 Vane Anemometer (Davis Instruments): eight-blade




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### Roof Fan Set up At Tilden Tuesday, March 9

**3.2 times more air exhausted**

Intake: 2 intake heaters/3 intake roof fans - 600,000 cfm (280 m<sup>3</sup>/s)  
 Exhaust: 39 exhaust fans - 1,930,500 cfm (910 m<sup>3</sup>/s)

Key  
 ↓ Intake Fan  
 ↑ Exhaust Fan



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**Major Objective:** Optimize and balance airflow throughout structure  
**Secondary Objective:** Lower respirable dust levels in and around the twelve primary grinding mills




**CDC** **NIOSH**

### Roof Fan Set up At Tilden as of 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 10

**1.1 times more intake air**

Intake: 2 intake heaters/12 intake roof fans - 1,045,000 cfm (490 m<sup>3</sup>/s)  
 Exhaust: 19 exhaust fans - 940,500 cfm (440 m<sup>3</sup>/s)

Key  
 ↓ Intake Fan  
 ↑ Exhaust Fan



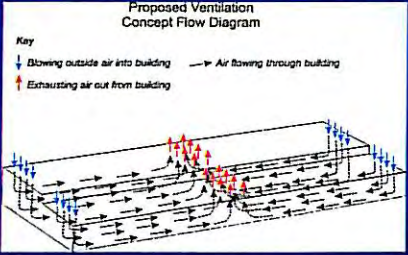
**CDC** **NIOSH**

### Ventilation Recommendation

- Proposed a significant change to concentrator structure ventilation - balance intake and exhaust volumes, create a directional flow pattern

Proposed Ventilation Concept Flow Diagram

Key  
 ↓ Blowing outside air into building    → Air flowing through building  
 ↑ Exhausting air out from building



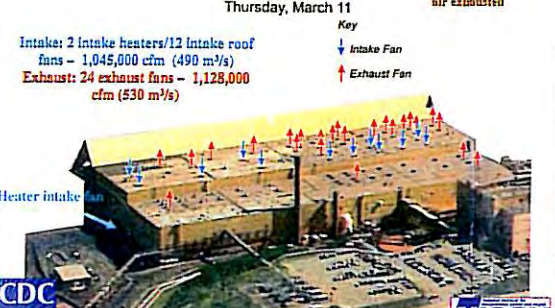
**CDC** **NIOSH**

### Roof Fan Set up At Tilden as of 7:00 a.m. Thursday, March 11

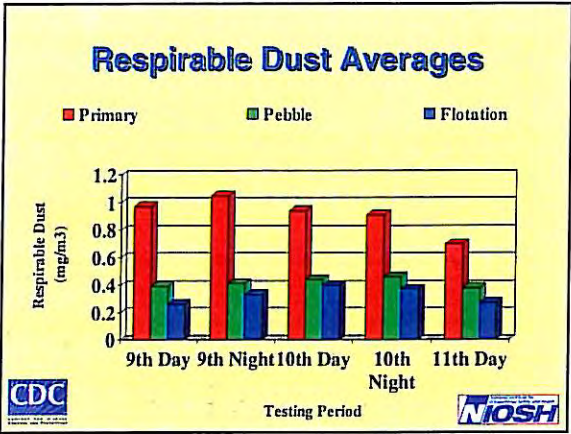
**1.1 times more air exhausted**

Intake: 2 intake heaters/12 intake roof fans - 1,045,000 cfm (490 m<sup>3</sup>/s)  
 Exhaust: 24 exhaust fans - 1,128,000 cfm (530 m<sup>3</sup>/s)

Key  
 ↓ Intake Fan  
 ↑ Exhaust Fan



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### Results from Ventilation Change to Balance and Optimize Airflow

- Respirable dust levels lowered by 31% in the primary grinding area - third ventilation design
- Respirable dust levels slightly lowered in pebble mill and flotation areas

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### IMA-NA Committee: Mineral Processing Dust Control Handbook

**Committee Members (Fall 2006):**

Chairman: Andy O'Brien, Unimin Corporation  
 Roger Bresee, Unimin Corporation  
 Rick Fox, Unimin Corporation  
 Chris Bryan, U.S. Silica Company  
 Mark Shultz, Mine Safety and Health Administration  
 Robert Franta, Spraying Systems Company (new member)  
 Randy Reed, NIOSH (new member)  
 Andy Cecala, NIOSH  
 Joe Schall, Technical Writer/Editor, Penn State University (paid)

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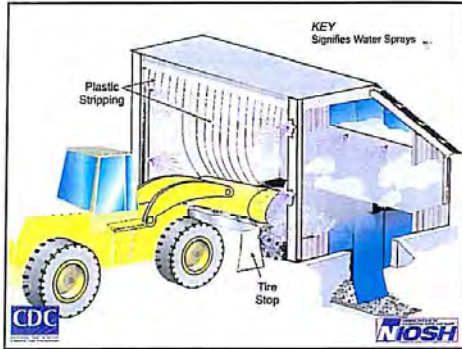


### Handbook Chapters

- Introduction
- Fundamental of Dust Collector Systems
- Water Application
- Drilling & Blasting
- Crushing & Screening
- Milling
- Conveying and Transport
- Dust Control for Bagging Operations
- Bulk Loading into Railcars and Trailer Trucks
- Secondary Source Control
- Enclosed Cabs and Booths
- Fugitive Dust Emissions
- Appendices

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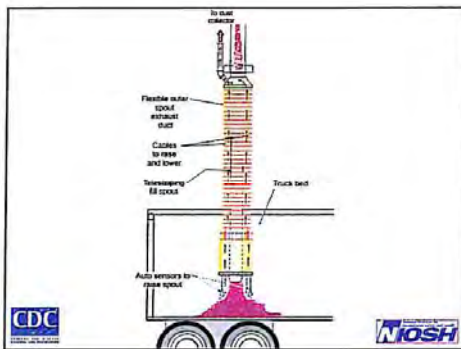




### Committee Meetings

- November 29, 2006 - Winchester, VA
- March 20, 2007 - Winchester, VA
- December 5, 2007 - Winchester, VA
- April 17, 2008 - Pittsburgh, PA
- June 4, 2008 - Berkeley Springs, WV
- First draft - End of 2009

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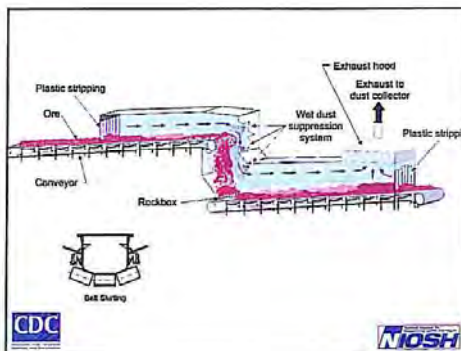
### Andy Cecala CDC/NIOSH

Respiratory Hazards Control Branch

E-mail: [ACecala@cdc.gov](mailto:ACecala@cdc.gov)

The findings and conclusions in this presentation have not been formally approved by NIOSH and should not be construed to represent any agency's official policy or position.

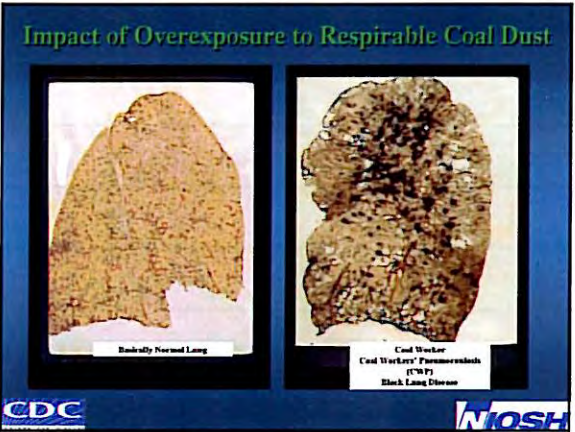
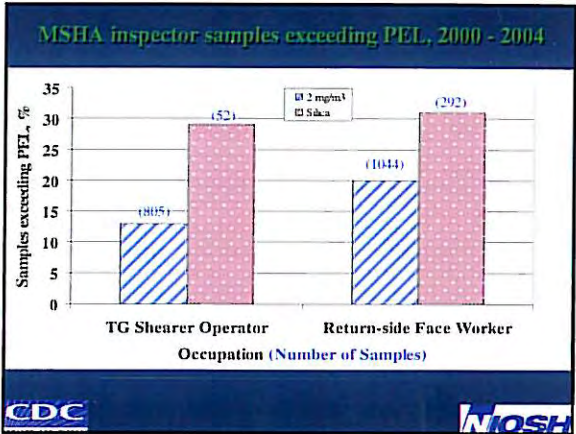
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# Dust Control for Longwalls

Pittsburgh Research Laboratory  
NIOSH

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### Designated Occupation [D.O.] Dust Samples

**MSHA Inspectors 1995-1999**

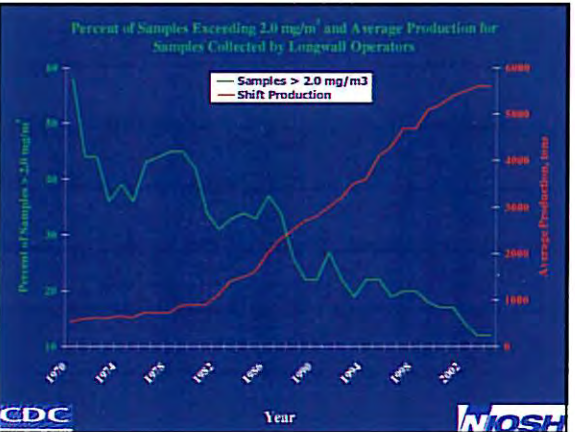
9,799 Dust Samples  
1,957 (20%) Exceeded  
2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> dust standard

**MSHA Inspectors 2000-2004**

7,421 Dust Samples  
1,072 (14%) Exceeded  
2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> dust standard



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### Designated Occupation [D.O.] Dust Samples

**Mine Operators 1995-1999**

1,358 Dust Samples  
258 (19%) Exceeded  
2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> dust standard

**Mine Operators 2000-2004**

1,587 Dust Samples  
235 (15%) Exceeded  
2 mg/m<sup>3</sup> dust standard



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## Longwalls

51 % of Underground  
Production

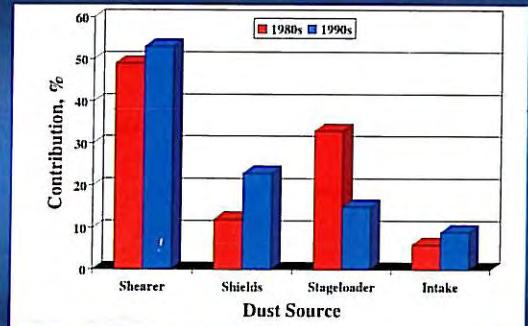
17 % of Total US  
Production



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## Longwall Dust Sources



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## Longwalls

### Overall Production

2004 – 187.9 million tons

2006 – 175.7 million tons

2007 – 170.9 million tons



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## Benchmarking Longwall Surveys

- Quantify dust from major sources
- Identify controls and level of application
- Provide suggestions for improved dust control



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## Longwalls

### Panel Widths

1994 – 750 ft

2002 – 940 ft

2007 – 967 ft

### Panel Lengths

1994 – 7000 ft

2002 – 10,000 ft

2007 – 10,192 ft



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## Benchmarking Longwall Surveys

### Gravimetric dust samplers

- 10 mm Dorr-Oliver nylon cyclones
- 2 L/min

### Personal DataRAMIS (pDRs)

- Time related profile of dust levels
- Data stored at 10 second intervals in an internal data logger



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## Stationary Sampling Locations

- Intake
- Belt Entry
- Shield 10
- 10 Shields From Tailgate



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## Observations to Date

- 7 mines utilized bidirectional cutting sequence
- 3 mines used unidirectional cutting
- Panel widths ranged between 780 and 1000 ft
- Cutting height averaged 9 ft and ranged between 7 and 11 ft



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## Mobile Sampling Locations

### OUTBY

- H to T - Outby shield movement

### SHEARER

- Between mid-shearer and tailgate drum

### UPWIND

- 5 shields upwind of headgate drum

### DOWNWIND

- 5 shields downwind of tailgate drum

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## Observations to Date

### Air Velocity

- Average - 647 ft/min
- 8 of 10 Longwall > 600 ft/min
- 2 Longwall > 800 ft/min

### Air Quantity

- Average - 65,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/min
- 65 % increase when compared to the 1995 longwall study



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## Baseline Surveys

### Spot Air Velocity Readings

- Each sampling shift
- 10 shield intervals
- Measured 1 foot above spill plate
- Rough estimate of the area at each velocity sampling location

### MONITOR WATER QUANTITIES

- Shearer
- Staceloader / Crusher

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## Observations to Date

- Average water usage at shearer - 130 gpm
- Shearer drum sprays ranged between 35 and 62
- Average drum spray pressure - 150 psi
- 4 operations utilized between 6 and 8 crescent sprays on the ranging arms




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### Observations to Date

- Directional water spray systems evident on all surveyed longwall
- Unique to each mining operation
- 9 out of 10 Longwall using splitter arm on the headgate side
- Length, number, and type of sprays were mine specific
- 4 Longwalls had splitter arm extension arms
- 2 Longwalls utilized venturi sprays



CDC NIOSH


### Longwall Dust Control

- Minimize dust generated and liberated
  - Cutting
  - Enclosures
- Direct dust clouds away from workers
  - Airflow
  - Directional sprays
  - Barriers
- Reduce airborne dust levels
  - Dilution
  - Capture

CDC NIOSH

### Observations to Date

- Type, number, and location of the shearer sprays varied greatly
  - Deflector plates observed at 3 western mine sites
  - Spray block manifolds and venturi sprays were utilized
- 2 Operations used tailgate splitter arm
- All other operations used a block manifold located above the lump breaker



CDC NIOSH


### Longwall Dust Control

- Ventilating Air
  - Dilution (quantity)
  - Removal (velocity)
- Water Sprays
  - Suppression (volume)
  - Redirection (pressure)
  - Capture (type)

CDC NIOSH

### Stationary Sampling Observations (gravimetric)

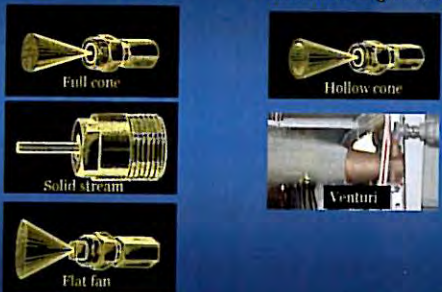
- Average dust levels
  - Intake - 0.20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
  - Belt - 0.47 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
  - Shield 1.0 - 0.70 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
  - Tailgate - 2.48 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Reduction in dust levels ranged between 27 and 53 % when compared to the survey conducted in the 90's
- Dust Attributed to the stageloader/crusher was 0.48 mg/m<sup>3</sup>



CDC NIOSH

### Impact of Water Sprays on Dust

- Suppression (volume)
  - Full cone
  - Solid stream
  - Flat fan
- Redirection (pressure)
  - Hollow cone
  - Venturi



CDC NIOSH

## Impact of Water Sprays on Dust

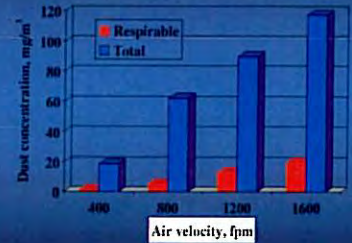
- Capture (type and pressure)



CDC

NIOSH

## Percent of Respirable Dust



CDC

NIOSH

## Higher Velocities Confine Dust Near Face

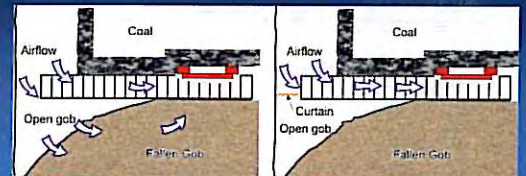
- Minimum velocity: 400 to 450 ft/min
- German Study: 700 to 900 ft/min if moisture content is 5 to 8%
- As velocities increase it is important to ensure sufficient wetting of the coal



CDC

NIOSH

## Maximize Air Flow to Longwall Face



Maintain Gob Curtain



CDC

NIOSH

## Dust Entrainment in High Velocity Airstreams

- Simulate entrainment of dust during shield advance
- Testing at air velocities from 400 to 1600 fpm



CDC

NIOSH

## Maximize Air Flow to Longwall Face

- Belt air utilized on 5 of 10 longwalls
- Average concentration: 0.47 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Belt maintenance is critical
- Wetting the coal product during transport
- Belt cleaning by scraping and washing



CDC

NIOSH

## Confine Dust – Stageloader Crusher

- Evident on all longwall
- Enclosures unique to mine operation
- Sprays : quantity over pressure ... large orifice, full cone sprays



CDC

NIOSH

## Directional Water Spray Systems

- Drum sprays (wetting)
- External sprays (directional)

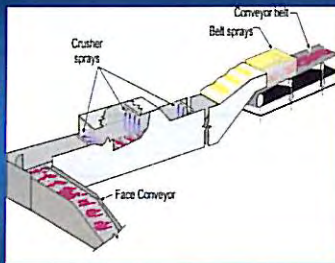


CDC

NIOSH

## Stageloader-Crusher Controls

- Sprays bars located above crusher hammer, entrance, and discharge
- Span the width of the enclosure
- Spray pressure: <math>\leq 60</math> psi, low pressure / high volume



CDC

NIOSH

## Minimize Dust Generation

- Sharp Bits
  - maintenance
- Drum Design
  - water distribution
  - bit lining
  - vanes
  - rpm



CDC

NIOSH

## Stageloader-Crusher Controls

- Flooded bed scrubbers
  - 6500 to 8500  $\text{ft}^3 / \text{min}$
- Crusher discharge and/or stageloader to belt transfer area



CDC

NIOSH

## Drum Sprays

- Quantity more important than pressure
- Drum sprays operated at maximum of 100psi
- Use larger orifice nozzles to increase spray quantity to drum
- Full-cone or solid stream spray patterns



CDC

NIOSH

## Crescent Sprays

- Observed on 50 % of surveyed longwalls
- Flat fan spray pattern aimed inward toward cutting drum



CDC

NIOSH

## Directional Spray System

- Length of splitter bar; type and number of sprays is mine specific
- Extend splitter beyond headgate drum
- Utilize enough sprays to prevent dust from headgate drum from migrating into walkway
- Spring mount rigid steel spray bar
- Utilize helting to separate air



CDC

NIOSH

## Directional Sprays (Shearer Clearer)



CDC

NIOSH

## Directional Spray System

- Orient sprays with airflow
- Hollow cone or venturi sprays
- Spray pressure at least 150 psi
- Sprays should not impact ranging arm



CDC

NIOSH

## Directional Spray System



CDC

NIOSH

## Directional Spray System

- Shearer sprays unique to each operation
- Sprays blocks consisting of 4 to 6 sprays position on shearer
- Direct with airflow



CDC

NIOSH



### Directional Spray System

Tailgate ranging arm

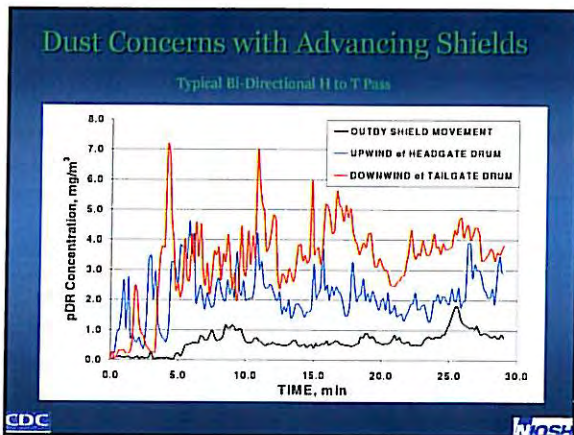
Face conveyor

CDC NIOSH

### Controlling Respirable Shield Dust

- Canopy spray systems
  - Activate sprays on top of shields
  - Hard to maintain; not very effective
- Air Dilution
  - Advance shield as far upwind as possible without causing operational problems
- Unidirectional cutting
- Shield sprays on underside of canopy

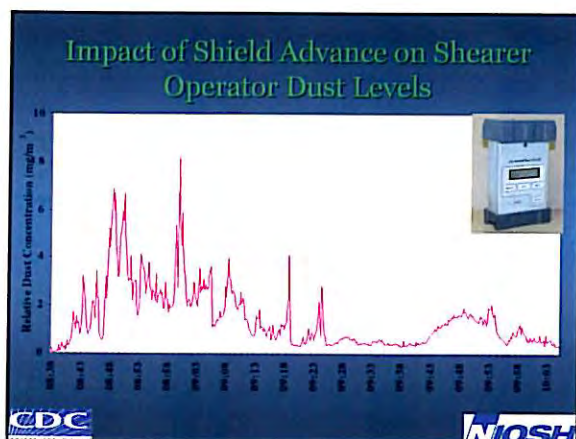
CDC NIOSH



### Shield Sprays

- Shield sprays utilized to enhance directional spray system
  - Activated to create a water curtain
  - Shearer activated
- Location varied between the tip of shield to spill plate
- On/Off sequencing is critical

CDC NIOSH



### Effective directional spray systems

CDC NIOSH

### Ineffective directional spray systems



Deflector plate

CDC

NIOSH

### Control guidelines - upwind

- Minimize intake/belt dust
- Confine stageloader/crusher dust
- Quantity of water in crusher
- Gob curtain at HG and beyond
- Shield advance/cutting sequences to minimize exposures of high risk workers

CDC

NIOSH

### Maximize Benefits of Available Controls



CDC

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### Control guidelines - shearer

- Optimize cutting parameters (bits, rpm)
- Maximize water quantity to drums (larger orifice nozzles)
- Drum spray pressures @ 100 psi or less
- External sprays @ 150 psi or higher
- Caution using crescent sprays on HG drum

CDC

NIOSH

### Effective Water Management



Utilize available water to optimize dust control

CDC

NIOSH

### Control guidelines - shearer

- HG side splitter arm
  - as far upwind of drum as possible
  - maintain correct height
  - appropriate angle for sprays
  - maintain helting
- Sloughing plate/deflector as high as possible
- Utilize TG splitter arm or manifold sprays
- Shearer operators positioned as far upwind as possible

CDC

NIOSH

## Commitment to Dust Controls

- Worker and management involvement – knowledge and attitude (safety => immediate vs. health => long term)
- **Maintenance is critical**

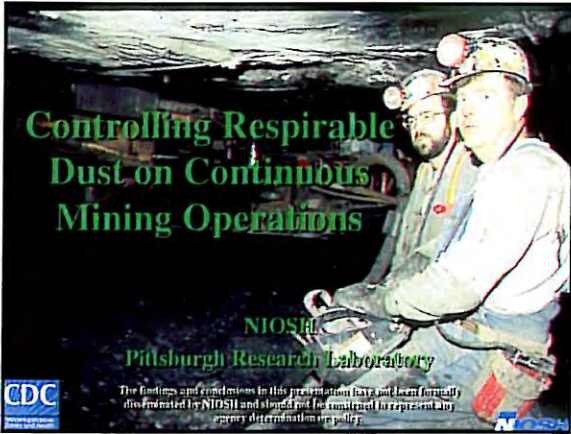


## Questions?

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jcolinet@cdc.gov





## Course Outline

1. Continuous Miner Dust Control
  - Water Sprays
  - Scrubbers
  - Air (Ventilation)
  - Wet Head Cutter
2. Roof Bolter Dust Control
  - Dust Box Maintenance
  - Cleaning
  - Dust collector bags
  - Canopy Air Curtain
  - Pre-cleaner dust/Exhaust conditioner (water box)

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### MSHA Data 2001 to 2004 17,000 personal samples

- 11% exceed the federal dust standard at the cm and roofbolter occupations
- 20% exceed a silica dust concentration of  $100\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

CDC Pittsburgh Research Laboratory NIOSH

## Limiting Dust Exposure

- Water – Suppresses, redirects, and captures
- Air – Dilutes and transports

CDC Pittsburgh Research Laboratory NIOSH

## Course Objective

- To describe and illustrate proven methods and engineering controls to minimize respirable dust concentrations on continuous mining operations (CM and bolter operators)

CDC Pittsburgh Research Laboratory NIOSH

## Impact of Water on Dust

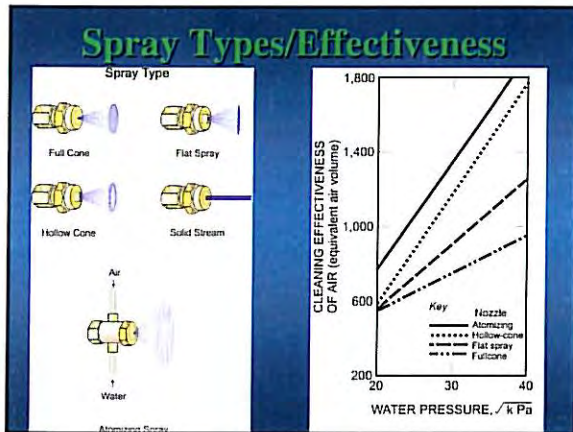
- Suppression – prevent generation
- Capture – remove from air (water or mechanical means)
- Redirection – directed away from worker

CDC Pittsburgh Research Laboratory NIOSH



## Spray Nozzles, cont. Full Cone

- Conical shape with solid circular pattern
- Medium to large droplets of water
- Provide uniform wetting
- Wide range of pressure and flows
- Effective for scrubber filters and belt transfer points



## Spray Nozzles, cont. Flat Fan

- Produce narrow 'wall' of spray at various angles
- Wide range of flow and spray angles
- Horizontal, high flow and low pressure as boom sprays suppress dust
- Vertically mounted on either side of miner directed toward face contains dust for scrubber capture


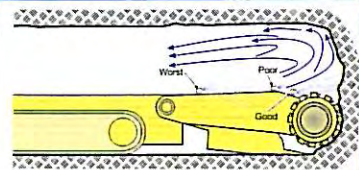
## Spray Nozzles Hollow Cone

- Conical shape, outer ring of circular spray
- Most widely used
- Small to medium droplets of water
- Larger orifice/Less likely to clog
- Effective for dust mixing (knockdown) and redirecting
- Usually provided from manufacturer

## Spray Nozzles, cont. Solid Stream

- Straight solid stream of water at high volume
- To be used close to the source
- Provide uniformity of wetting
- Effective for dust suppression

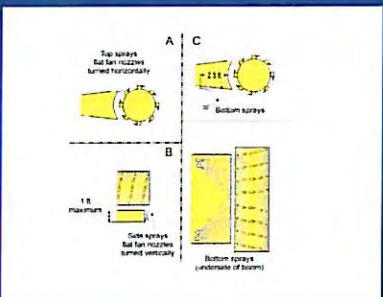
### Sprays close to cutting head

### Wetting/Suppression

- flat-fan sprays on top of boom
- deluge sprays under boom
- throat sprays
- surfactants (wetting agents)
- **Flow rate most important**

### Spray Locations

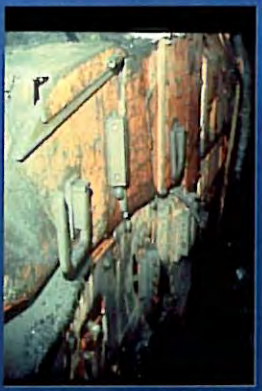


### Redirecting/Moving Air

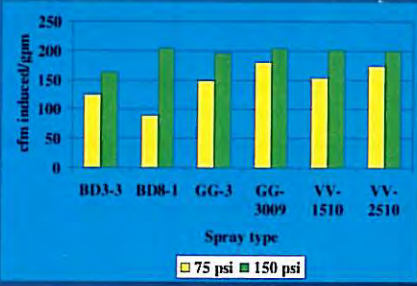
- Shovel sprays
- Blocking sprays
- Spray-fan system
  - methane control
  - reduced effectiveness on dust control
- **Pressure/location important**

### Blocking Sprays

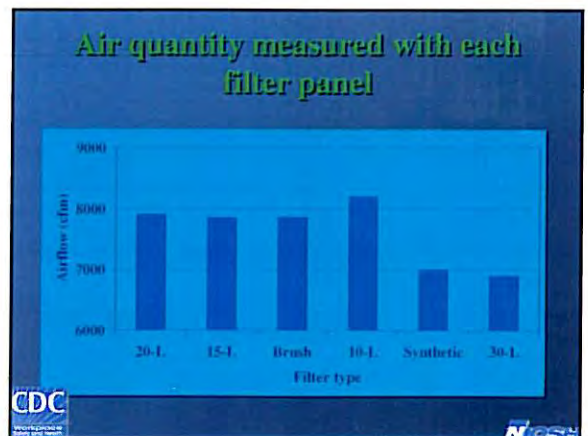
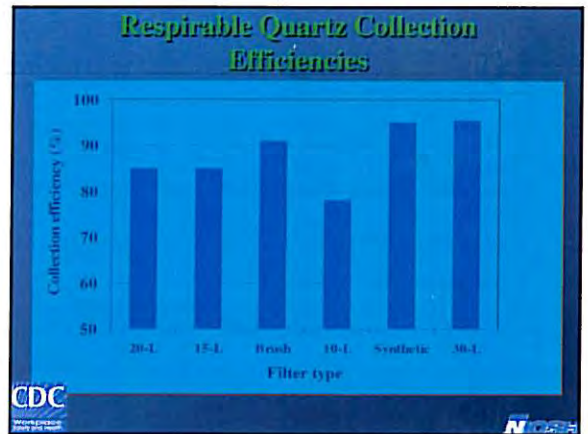
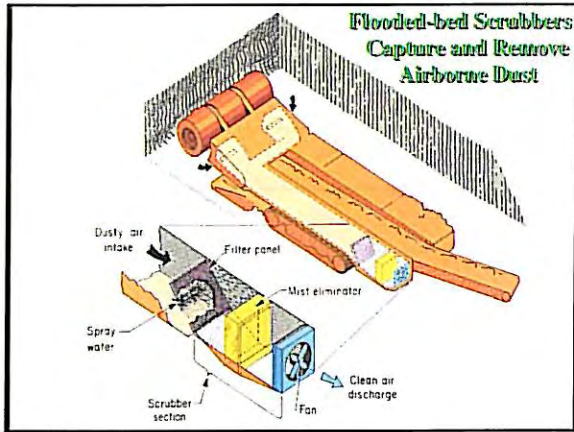
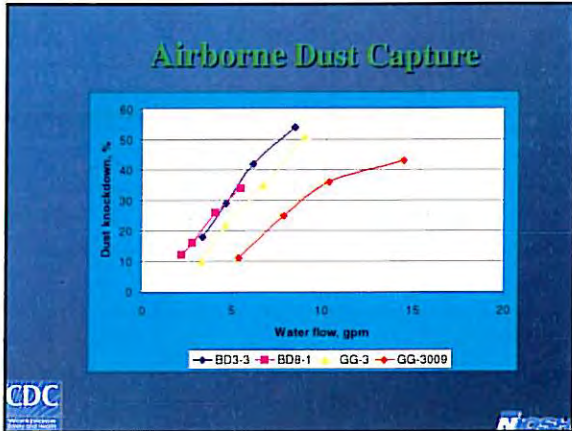
- Contains dust beneath boom
- Lower dust levels at operator and around machine



### Airmoving Effectiveness



Spray type	75 psi (cfm/gpm)	150 psi (cfm/gpm)
BDA-3	~125	~165
BD8-1	~90	~205
GG-3	~150	~195
GG-3009	~180	~205
VV-1510	~155	~200
VV-2510	~175	~200

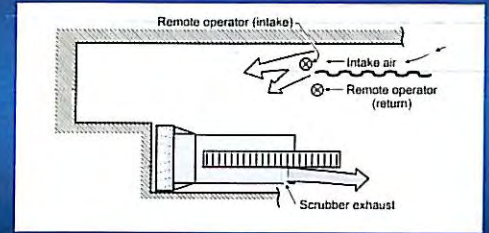


## Scrubber Efficiency

- Scrubbers can lose 1/3 of airflow after one cut
- Check air velocity with pitot tube
- Most common loss of efficiency due to filter panel clogging.



## Air Blowing Ventilation



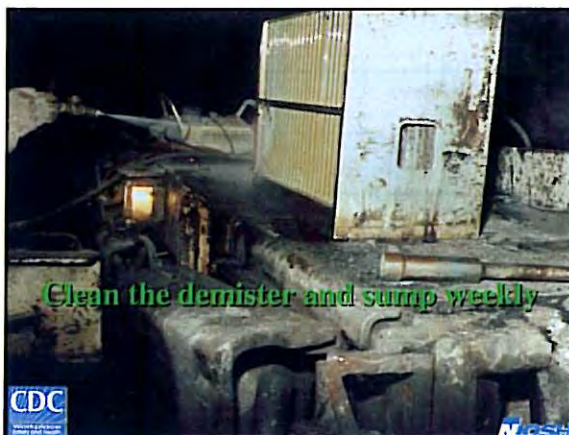
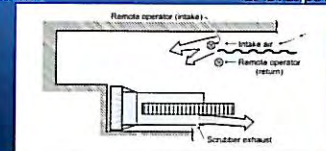
## Clean and maintain scrubber filter and demister

- Filter spray(s) should completely wet the panel (full cone sprays)
- Clean filter panel and ductwork with water twice each shift
- Replace filter each shift, back flush and allow to dry, then shake out remaining dust



## Blowing Ventilation

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advantages                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Greater penetration to face &gt; 800 fpm</li> <li>- Effectively sweeps dust and methane from the face</li> <li>- Easier to maintain than exhaust</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disadvantages                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Restricts operator movement</li> <li>- Shuttle car operators must work in return air face</li> <li>- Incorrect air balance may cause recirculation or overpowering</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|--|---|



## Clean the demister and sump weekly



## Blowing Ventilation

### Recommendations

- Airflow at end of curtain, 1000 cfm > scrubber airflow
- Measure airflow into place with scrubber off
- Shuttle car operator is on curtain side of entry Scrubber discharge is on off curtain side







- ## Exhausting Ventilation
- **Advantages**
    - Operator has greater range of movement
    - Shuttle car operator remains in fresh air
    - Minimal effects on scrubber inlet efficiency
  - **Disadvantages**
    - Curtain is difficult to maintain
    - Less effective sweep of dust and methane from the face than blowing
- The CDC and NIOSH logos are visible in the bottom corners.

- ## Potential Wethead Benefits
- Reduce frictional ignitions – bit cooling
  - Increase bit life
  - Reduce respirable dust – increased wetting
  - Less water consumption
- This image shows a continuous miner in operation, with dust and debris visible in the air. The CDC and NIOSH logos are visible in the bottom corners.

- ## Exhausting Ventilation Recommendations
- Operator/helpers remain on intake side of entry
  - Line curtain secured firmly to roof and floor
  - Mean entry air velocity – 60 fpm minimum
  - Curtain setback beyond scrubber discharge
  - Shuttle car operator located on off curtain side of entry
- The CDC and NIOSH logos are visible in the bottom corners.

- ## Other Considerations
- Bit design
  - Cutting roof rock
- The CDC and NIOSH logos are visible in the bottom corners.

### BIT DESIGNS

- Slender profile
  - Small carbide
  - High wear rate, resulting in high dust levels
- Intermediate profile
  - Large carbide
  - Low wear rate
  - Low dust levels
- Fat profile
  - Irregular transition
  - Shank rubs, resulting in high dust levels

CDC NIOSH

### Operator Over Exposures

- Poor maintenance of vacuum dust collector
- Improper cleaning of collector compartment
- Removing and replacing canister filter
- Contamination of the downstream collector components

CDC NIOSH

### Improved Cutting Methods

Roof rock trimmed last

Coal face

CDC NIOSH

### Dust Collector Components

Drill Bit  
Drill Steel  
Drill Base  
Collector Hose  
Pre-Cleaner  
Vacuum Pump  
Muffler  
Cyclone  
Main Chamber  
Dust Collector Box  
Canister Filter

CDC NIOSH

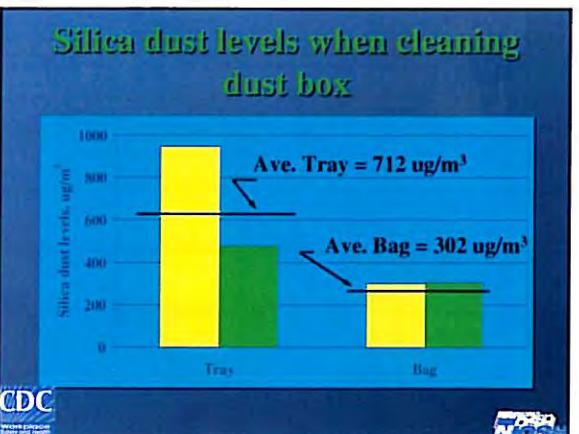
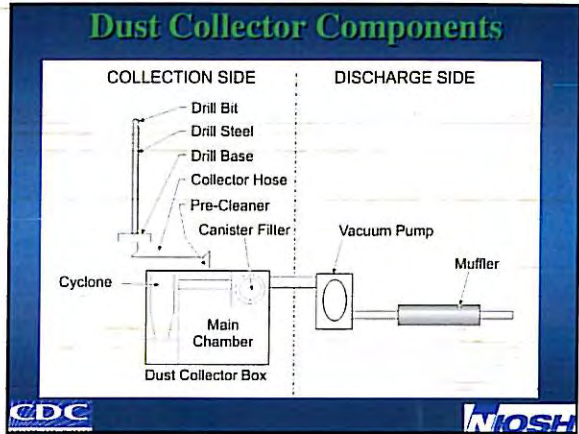
### Roof Bolter Dust Control

CDC NIOSH

### Maintenance

- Eliminate Leaks in Vacuum System
- Check door gasket integrity
- Hoses and clamps
- Door latches intact
- Door not bent, seating tight

CDC NIOSH



## Disposable Collector Bag

- Manufactured By Wildwood Industries
- Distributed by JH Fletcher for bolters
- Can be retrofitted to most Fletcher dust collectors
- Recommended to be used with pre-cleaner



CDC

NIOSH

## Collector Box Tests



Before

After

CDC

Pittsburgh Research Laboratory

NIOSH



CDC

NIOSH

## Collector Box Tests With Bag



Before

After

CDC

Pittsburgh Research Laboratory

NIOSH

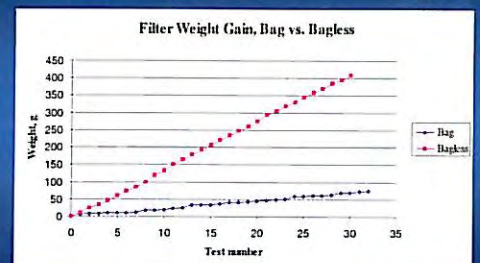
## Bolter Bag Lab Study

- Simulated roof bolter drilling dust collector
- 60 tests (30 with bag installed and 30 without bag)
- 50 lbs of ground limestone per minute for each test
- Sampling: RAML, APS, Canister filter loading, Pressure drop across filter

CDC

NIOSH

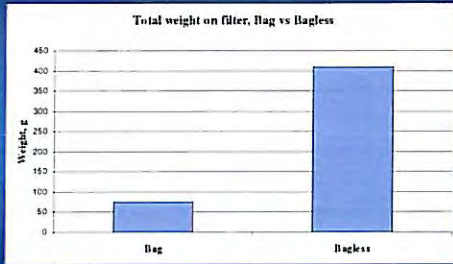
## Filter Weight Gain per Test



CDC

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## Total Filter Loading



CDC

NIOSH

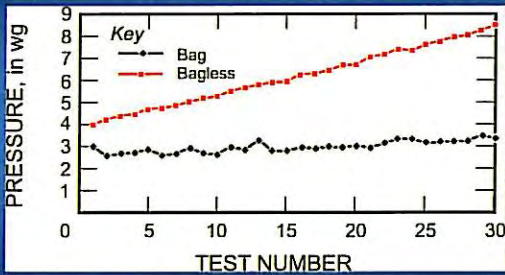
## Bolter Bag Field Study

- Dual boom Fletcher bolter
- Upwind of miner
- Exhausting ventilation
- Bag-vs bagless
- Area samplers – gravimetric and pDR's
- Personal samplers - PDM

CDC

NIOSH

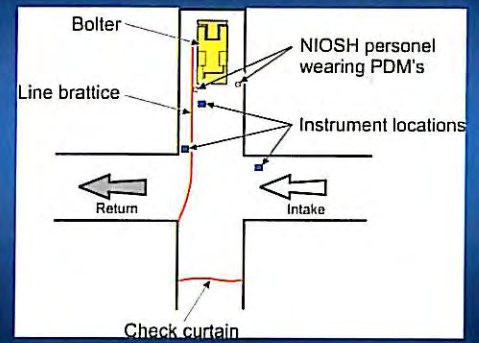
## Pressure Drop Across Filter



CDC

NIOSH

## Instrument Locations



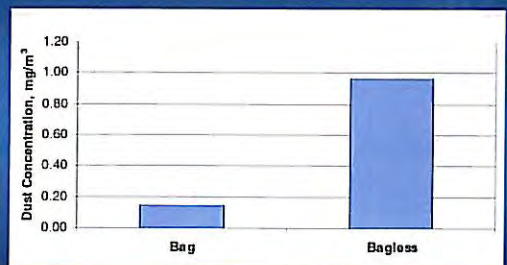
## Lab Results Summary

- Avg of 99.6% of feed dust contained in collector bag
- Dust concentration: 2 times higher when bag not installed
- Total dust particle counts of fine dust (< 2 microns) 3 times greater without bag in place
- Canister filter loading greatly reduced with bag in place
- Pressure drop across filter: 3.0 to 3.3 with bag in place, 4.0 to 8.4 without bag

CDC

NIOSH

## Gravimetric Sample Results, Collector Emissions



CDC

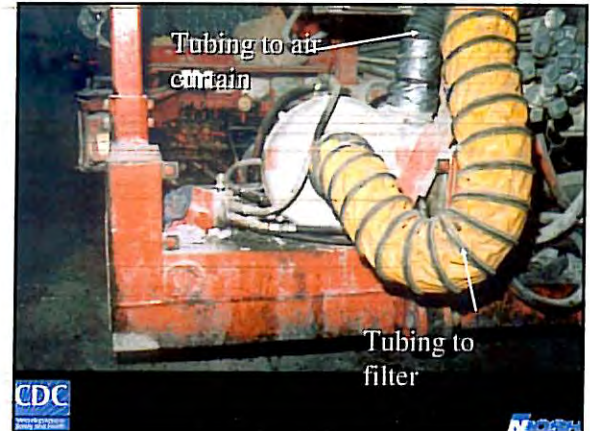
NIOSH

## Field Results

- Gravimetric samplers: respirable dust improved from 0.96 mg/m<sup>3</sup> to 0.14 mg/m<sup>3</sup> when the bag is in use.
- Personal samples from the PDMs: left side (exhaust side) of the bolter experienced over 2 times the amount of respirable dust than the right side.
- Collector box cleaning time reduced from 4 minutes to 30 seconds.

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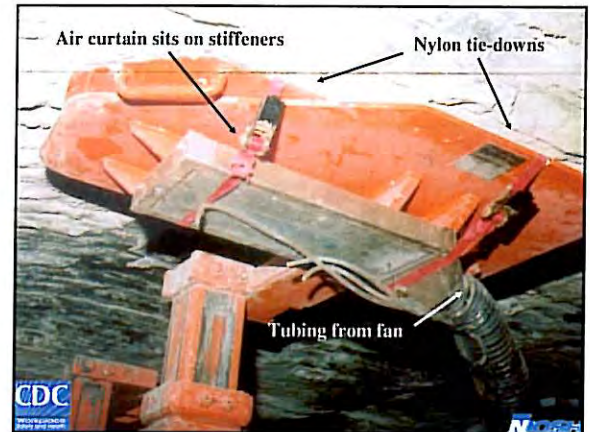


## Overall Benefits of Collector Bags

- Keeps dust contained during removal from box
- Keeps dust out of entry traffic preventing further entrainment
- Prolongs filter usage – reduces R/R frequency
- Reduces dust on outby collector components
- Reduces dust emissions from collector exhaust

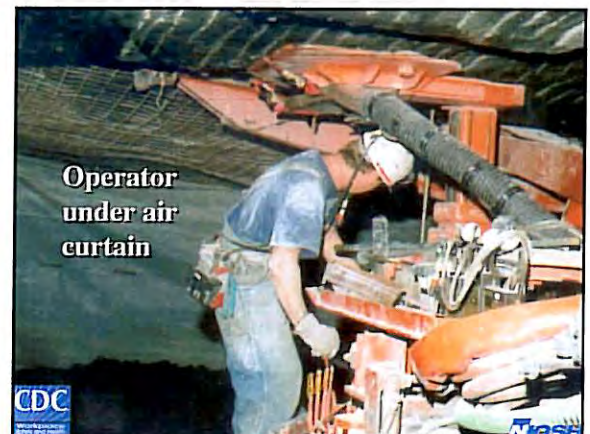
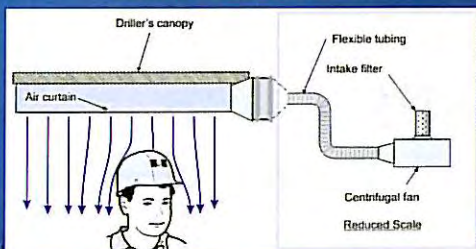
CDC

NIOSH



## Canopy Air Curtain

Limits exposures downwind of continuous miner



### Findings from field evaluation

- Reduced dust under air curtain
- Must keep operator under air curtain
- Must increase air curtain size (improves protection)

CDC  
NIOSH

### Canopy Air Curtain Study

#### Results/findings to date

1. Completed CFD analysis
2. Currently being fabricated to include CFD modifications

3D VIEW

### Air Curtain Development

Original prototype

Current Design

### Second Generation Air Curtain Design

Deflectors  
Open  
Section 'A-A'  
Perforated plates  
Deflectors  
Bottom View  
3D VIEW

CDC  
Pittsburgh Research Laboratory  
NIOSH

Lab testing prototype

#### CFD Analysis

Deflectors  
Open  
Section 'A-A'  
Perforated plates  
Deflectors  
Bottom View

Current Design

MI Solution

Distribution profile

### Ongoing Roof Bolter Studies

Exhaust conditioner (water flux)

Pre-cleaner dust

## Controlling Worker Exposure

- Minimize Quantity of Dust Generated
- Apply Controls Close to Source
- Utilize a Multitude of Controls
- Worker Involvement
- **Maintenance is Critical**



Pittsburgh Research Laboratory





Dust Control at Twentymile Coal Company



Million gallon tanks



Main mine fan



"Water world"



Water supply

Pond A



Pit

60 hp section pump



Wet head miner



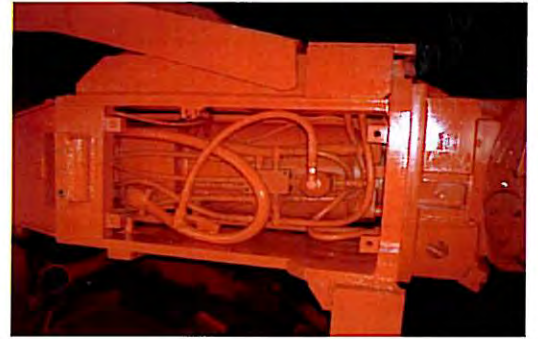
Miner cooling sprays



Wet head spray location



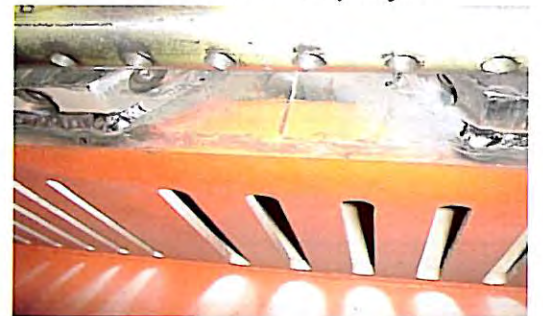
Cutter motor compartment



Wet head spray



Miner throat sprays



Conveyor belt door



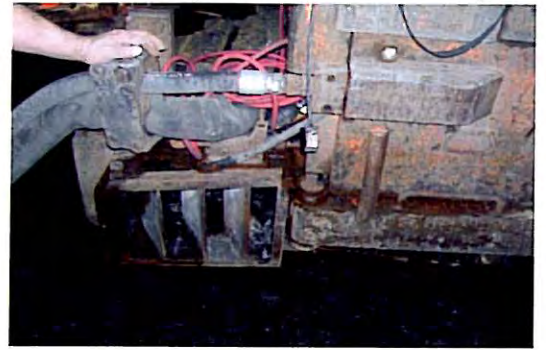
Off-side scrubber gate



Scrubber sprays



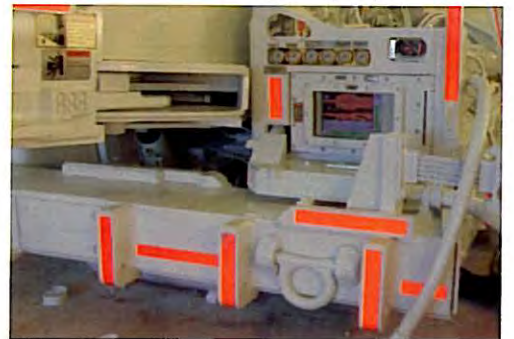
Scrubber operator-side discharge



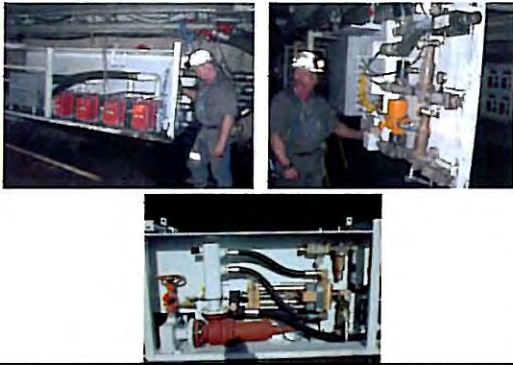
Scrubber off-side air discharge



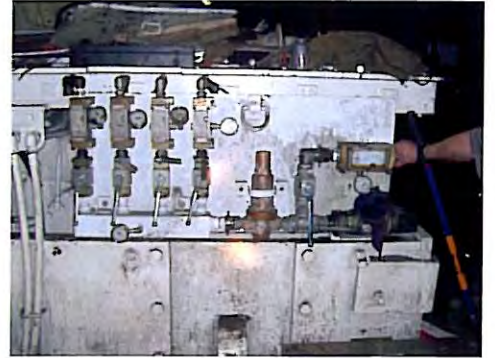
Miner water gauge panel



Longwall motor valve car



Headgate corner flow meter panel



Longwall filter station



Stagel loader discharge scrubber



Stagel loader discharge flow meter panel



Stagel loader discharge sprays



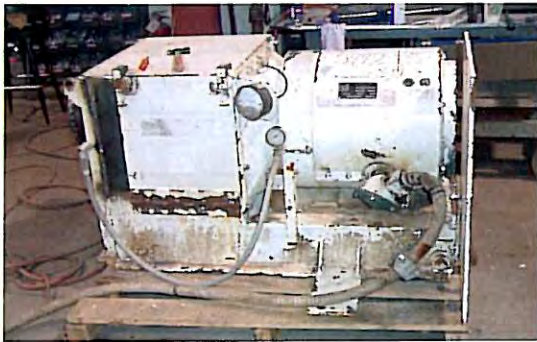
Crusher sprays



Shearer drum sprays



Crusher scrubber



Shearer headgate end spray bar



Plough sprays



Shearer tailgate end spray bar



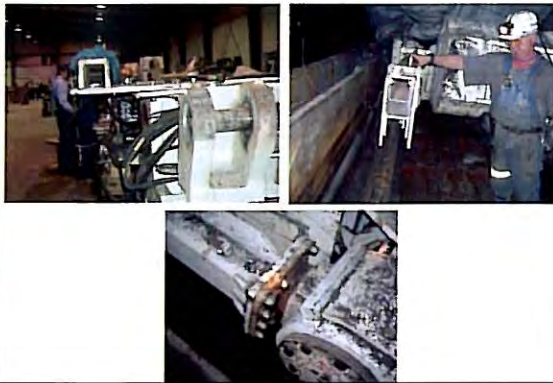
Shearer tailgate spray bar



Shield sprays



Shearer spray bar holder



Shield sprays



Shearer-clearer sprays



Shield sprays



## Questions?

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## Real-Time Dust Sampling to Reduce Exposures

Jon C. Volkwein

US / North American Mine Ventilation  
Symposium Workshop  
June 8, 2008

The findings and conclusions in this presentation have not been formally disseminated by NIOSH and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.

## Mining Research Establishment in UK develops first sampler for mining

- Used gravity to size the aerosol
- Used filter to weigh the sized dust
- MRE 113A horizontal elutriator
- Extensive health effects data collected

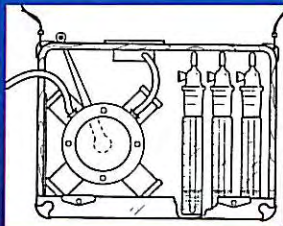


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## The beginnings

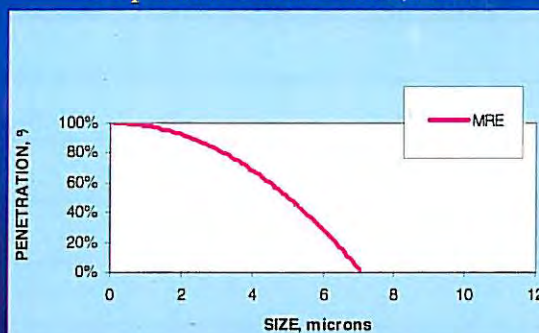
- 1556 Agricola recognized that dust had harmful effects on humans
- Bureau of Mines in 1911 began to discover that coal mine dust explodes
- And by 1936 BOM had developed a hand held impinger to measure dust
- Counted particles in liquid



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## Respirable Dust Definitions



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## New insights about dust diseases in early 1960's trigger major change in dust sampling

- Progression of dust diseases correlate with mass of dust
- Dust particles less than about 7 micrometers are the ones that enter inner lung space.
- Lead to samplers that measured mass less than a certain size.

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## U. S. develops "personal sampler" for mining use in mid 1960's

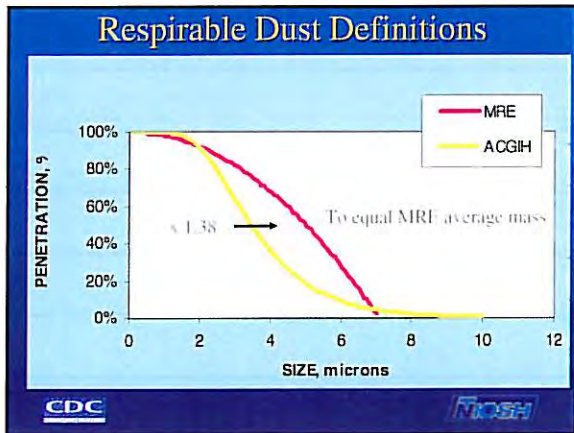
- Centrifugal force used to size aerosol
  - Small and light weight
  - Less sensitive to orientation
  - Portable use
- Similar filter mass determination.
- Portable pump
- Incorporated into law



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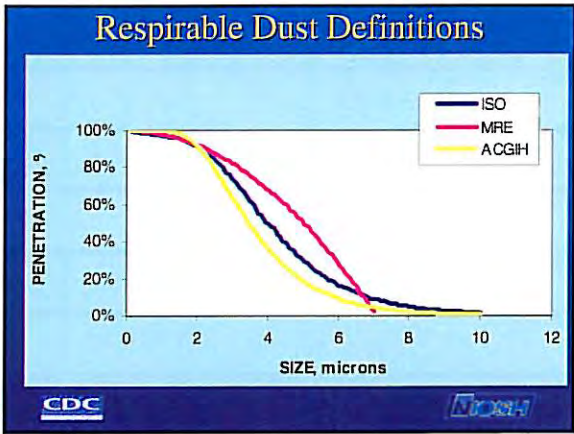




### Mid 1970's Bureau of Mines began development of short term dust monitors.

- Beta-attenuation mass monitor GCA-301
- SRI Light scattering photometer

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### Mid 1970's Bureau of Mines began development of short term dust monitors.

- Beta-attenuation mass monitor GCA-301
- SRI Light scattering photometer
- Real Time Aerosol Monitor (RAM-1)
- Personal Data Ram

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### Advantage of Personal sampling

- Measures dust that worker actually breathes
- Provides incentive to control dust at the worker, and not at some arbitrary location

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### Light Scattering Advantages/Disadvantages

- Real time dust concentration data
- Good for engineering measurements when dust is consistent and no water sprays are present.
- May be calibrated to specific dusts
- Response dependent on size of dust
- Response dependent on dust composition
- Responds to water droplets
- Field measurements show poor accuracy and precision.

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## Compliance sampling unchanged



Little has changed in the last 30 years.

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## New technology permitted portable base for dust sensor

- Miniaturization of sensor now possible
- Enabled placement of sensor on person.
- Benefits of personal sampling

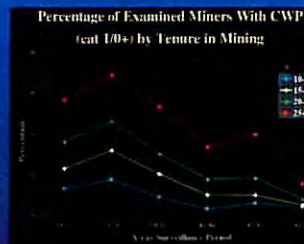


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## Continued concern reflected in continuing lung disease in miners

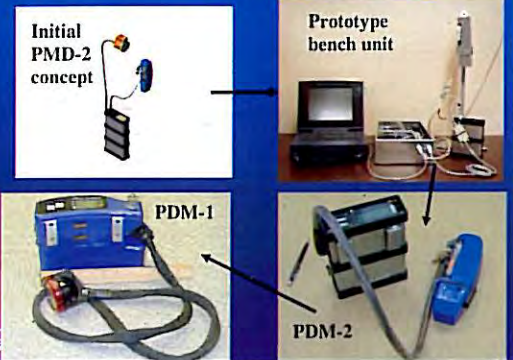
- 1969 H&S Act sets 2 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- 30 years later CWP still occurs
- Sec. of Labor urges better monitoring
- NIOSH "...more accurate and reliable measures of worker exposures..." needed



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## Evolution of PDM Technology



## Decision by MSHA and BOM to develop a mass based sensor

- Jointly funded by MSHA and NIOSH
- Initial approach used existing fixed site environmental monitor
- Mount on mining machine much like a methane monitor
- 4 cu ft box weighing 160 lbs.
- Relied on area measurements, no data on personal exposure and not reliable



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## PDM Design Goals

- Personal-wearable, make monitor part of the existing miners' cap lamp and battery system
  - Move the dust sample inlet from the lapel to the bill of the hard hat, within the industrial hygiene definition of the breathing zone
  - Sample stream transported through a tube to belt-mounted unit
- Equivalent to or better than the current sampler
- Provide accurate EOS reading
- Compliance with MSHA intrinsic safety requirements for both sampler and cap lamp
- Include cyclone with low bias relative to the MRE and ISO respirable dust convention

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## What Does the PDM Do?

- Continuously monitors a worker's personal exposure to respirable dust
- Reports cumulative, current and projected information in numeric and graphic formats
- At the end of the work shift, detailed respirable dust exposure and diagnostic information can be saved and used for further analysis
- The device can be used either as a personal or area monitor, as an engineering tool, or essentially a compliance



PDM previously reported  
P&D 100 used by PDM to 2004



## Description of Monitor

- Belt wearable combination cap lamp and dust monitor
- Weight = 4.9 lb. (Wheat battery alone = 4.4 lb.)
- Measures mass on filter with TE
- Displays on monitor
- Stores data in memory for about a month



## Principle of operation

- Gravimetric-equivalent mass measurement
- Exchangeable filter cartridge mounted on the end of the tapered element collects particles as sample stream flows through hollow tube
- Tapered element always oscillates at its harmonic frequency -- like a tuning fork
- Frequency changes in *direct* relation to the mass collected on the filter
- Measurement principle does *not* respond to other particle characteristics such as optical properties, composition or size distribution



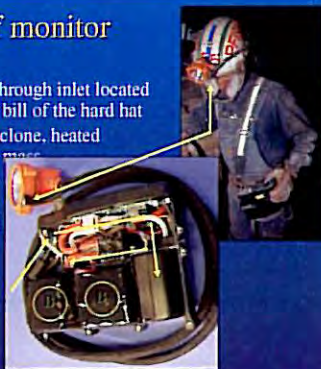
## Evaluation methods

- Laboratory testing May 2003
  - Compare PDM mass to reference - accuracy criteria
  - Determine bias of cyclones to respirable definitions
  - Test water resistance, temperature, data displays, etc.
- In-mine testing Summer 2003
  - Durability / Wearability
  - Comparison to reference sampler
  - Determine bias of cyclones in mines
- Report published as NIOSH RI 9663 and <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/> - Mining Spotlights



## Description of monitor

- Sample enters system through inlet located beside the cap lamp on bill of the hard hat
- Next: HD respirable cyclone, heated internal tubing, TEOM mass sensor, and computer-controlled pump
- Two separate, identical batteries for cap lamp and dust monitor
- Weight of 2.3 kg including umbilical and cap lamp



## Summary of Results

- Mass measurement by PDM meets NIOSH accuracy criteria – for an individual observation, the PDM method gives a result that is within +/- 25% with a probability of 0.95
- And, the individual result falls within an upper or lower confidence limit of 95%
- The bias of the HD cyclone is less than the DO cyclone
- Therefore, PDM-1 is equal to or better than existing method.
- In-mine results show that instruments are interchangeable.



## How can real-time technology help control dust?

- Provides direct data
- Provides timely data
- Minimize propagation of error in dust reduction calculation
- Can isolate sources to improve accuracy
- Ability to replicate results adds confidence to interpretation of results

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## Screen Display

- Average concentration for last 30 minutes
- Average concentration to the present time
- Projected exposure – final EOS exposure if no additional dust exposure



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## Methods for This Work

- Results from mine used
- Combined with observations
- Used existing data
- Highlighted engineering applications
- Used display data while UG, and illustrated with stored data

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## Bar graph of day



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## Mine Testing - Guests

- No reference samplers worn
- Purpose was to allow interested parties opportunity to experience unit
- Limited experimentation with features



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## Methods of Evaluation

- Normal A-B-A type of observation -- the A period is without control, and the B period is with a control
- PDM A-B-A method -- the A period is normal conditions and the B period is the detection of a control system out of adjustment
- Isolation of source and Upstream/Downstream measurements

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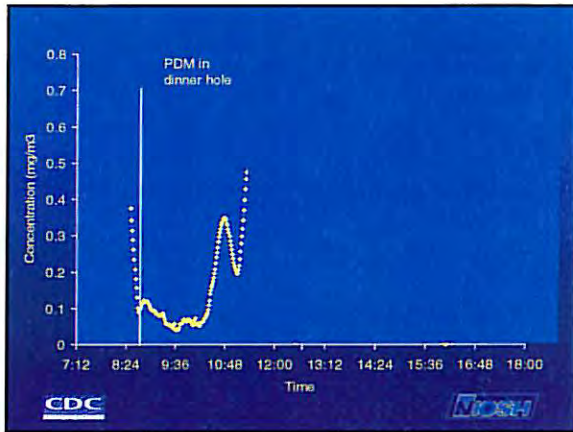
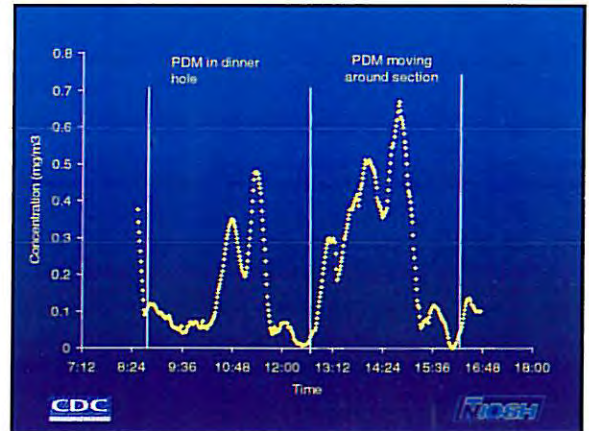
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## Discovery of a Leaking Curtain

- PDM worn by a guest in the dinner hole
- Observed an increase in the dust levels while talking in the intake.
- Located source

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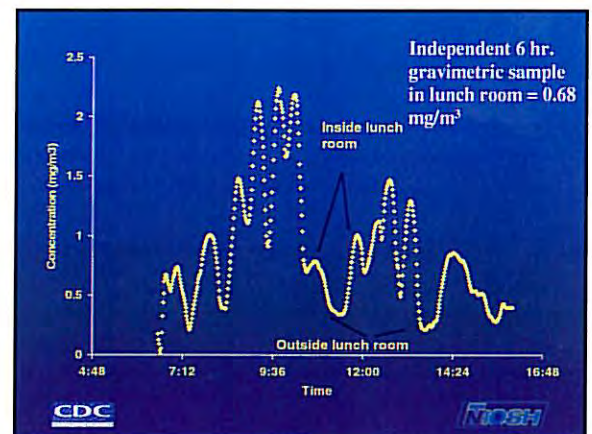
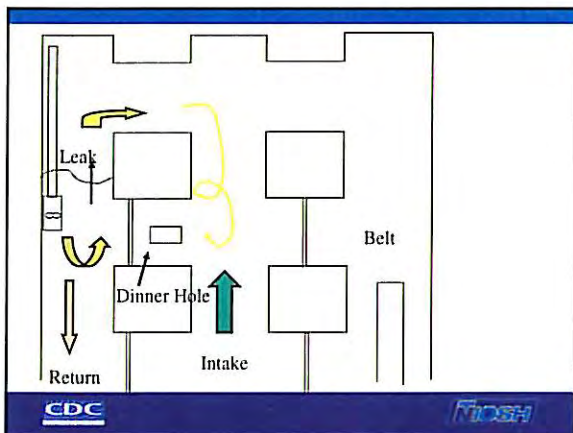
## Another Dinner Hole Observation

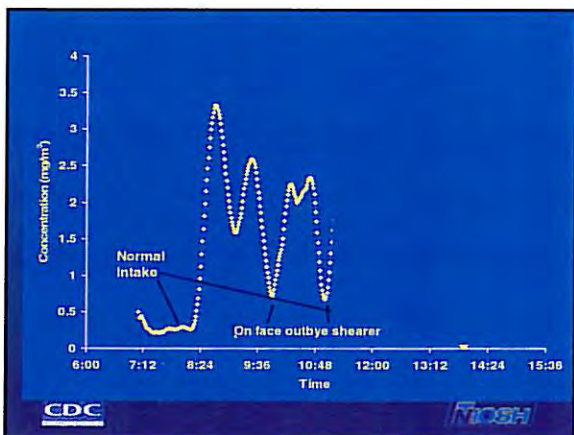
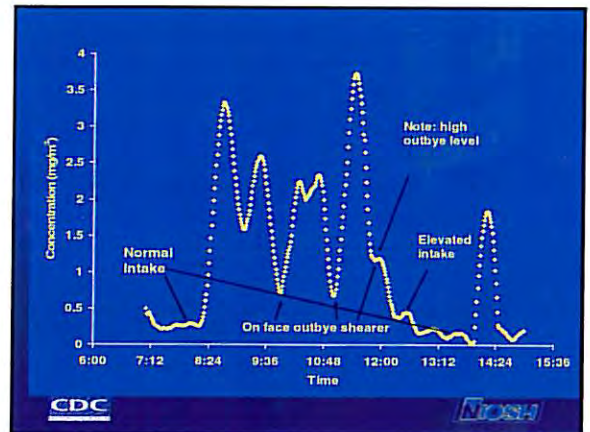
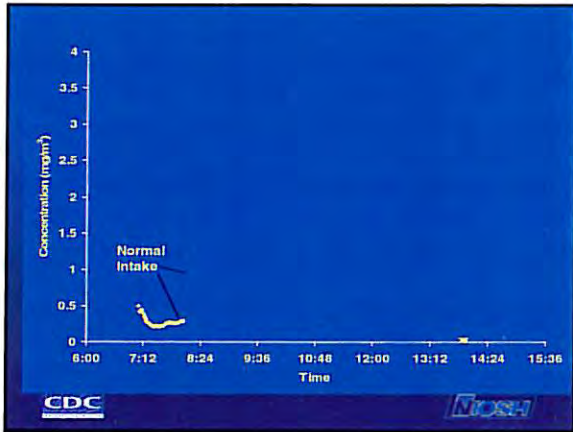
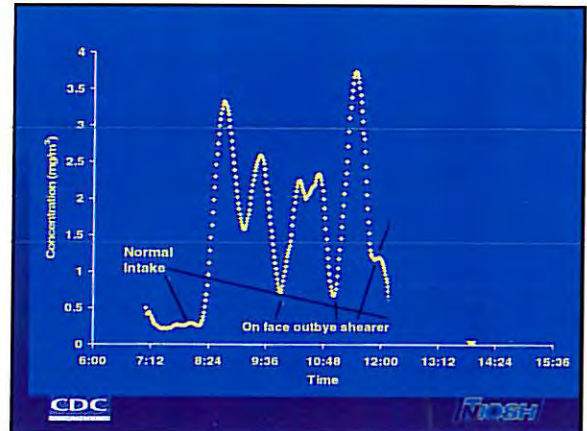
- Enclosed steel skid mounted shelter
- Cold mine
- Heated with infrared electric heater
- Noted high levels in room



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### Stage Loader Evaluation

- Compare effectiveness of existing sprays to new low water use scrubber
- Use 2 PDM's in upstream/downstream comparison
- Use display and secondary data mode
- Time synchronize during normal production

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## Stage Loader Results

Test Description	Upstream Conc. (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Downstream Conc. (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Down – Up Conc. (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Scrubber with water	0.0697	0.3666	0.297
Scrubber with no water	0.0832	0.3212	0.238
Water only	0.0753	0.5288	0.453

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## EVALUATION

### Did miners use their PDM to evaluate interventions?

- In 12 cases, miner reported looking at his PDM to see the effect of the change.
- What did he see?
  - In 8 cases, the numbers went down
  - In 1 case, the numbers stopped rising
  - In 3 cases, no difference

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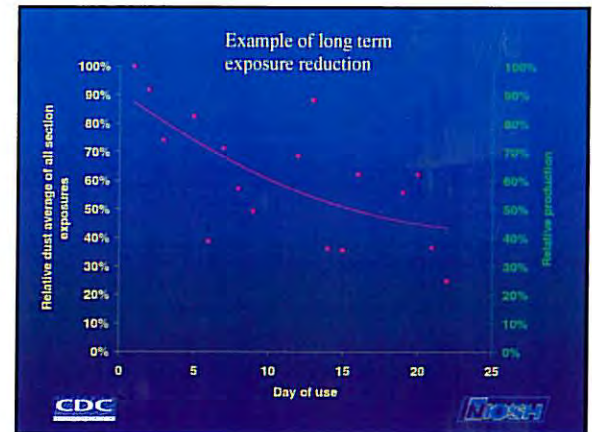
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## Stage Loader Evaluation Conclusion

- Test was preliminary in nature
- Conclude that scrubber was at least as effective as system currently approved and in use
- Be careful with short term evaluations

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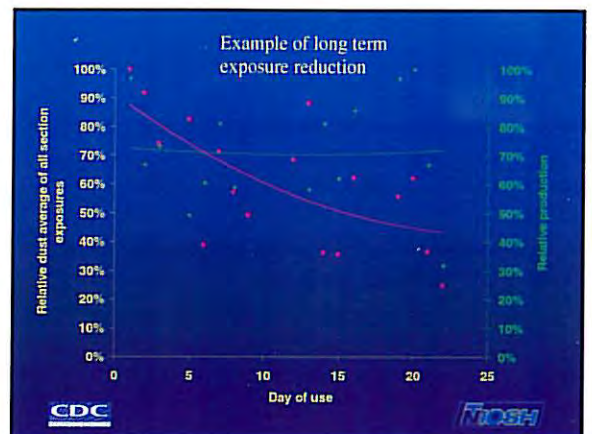
## Miners Response to PDM Project Objective



Document how miners use real-time PDM information to reduce exposure to respirable dust

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## Take home

- PDM useful to diagnose dust sources
- Quick evaluation of dust sources
- Discovery of unexpected particulate sources
- Knowing exposure levels can result in lower overall concentrations

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