

Group #5 Notes:

Mike Green - Barrick Bald Mountain

Chet Steele - Trapper Mine

Ron Roopchansingh - Argo International

Deedra Hart - Argo International

Cory Haynes - Nexans AmerCable

Jason L Praus - Mining Electrical Services

Randy Lindborg - North American Coal Coyote Creek Mining Company

Jorge Paz - Suncor Energy – Canada

Kyle Thomson - Colowyo Coal Company

Rob Marnell - Drives & Controls Services, Inc. – Casper, Wyoming

Safety:

Taking Phil Granger's lead, we discussed Distracted Driving. Cory Haynes - Nexar Americable noted that some law enforcement agencies are monitoring cell phone use by requiring a vehicle operator surrender his or her cell phone to determine if it was in use at the time of an incident. Their policy is "One Strike and You're Out". Randy Lindborg - North American Coal spoke of the hazards with the oil boom in North Dakota in the Bakken Oil Field with a higher than normal traffic volume.

Rob Marnell - Drives & Controls Services, Inc. shared an incident in which he flew into Southern California, rented a car and never realized that hand held cell phone use was not allowed. He was able to "Google" the subject and find a website that spells out the current regulations by state. Even if cell phone use is not regulated in some states, there could be a company policy banning their use.

Jason L Praus - Mining Electrical Services spoke of requesting special permission to use company cell phones while driving on mine sites where the use would otherwise be banned. It is still required to pull over to dial out. Most mining companies do not allow any use on their sites. If caught using, you could be banned from the site.

Ron Roopchansingh - Argo International discussed that cell phone use in Canada while driving is "Totally Banned". You receive a fine if caught, and law enforcement use a cell phone transmitting detector device to detect cell phone use. He also spoke of regulating pedestrians walking while texting.

Randy Lindborg spoke of a special texting while walking lane in some larger cities. Cory Haynes - Nexans AmerCable spoke of the ease of "Pairing" a cell phone to a late model rental car, using the vehicle radio to broadcast the phone call.

We also discussed the use of maps, mapping applications, and other navigational devices (Spouses)

Jason L Praus discussed the costs involved with implementing the requirements of the recent MSHA Dust Standards Regulations. Miners and Contractors will be required to have chest x-rays, and respiratory tests to protect against

such diseases as Black Lung. The new regulations require each mine and contractor to submit a plan to NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) approval.

Jason L Praus discussed the new vehicle LED lighting does not generate enough heat to melt snow and ice build up on trucks and trailers. Also, blinking clearance lights on vehicles and trailers are not allowed because of the distraction to other drivers.

Cory Haynes discussed an incident in which he approached a truck with LED lights from behind in a snow storm, and only saw a faint red glow from the vehicle.

Kyle Thomson – Colowyo Coal Company installed LED lights on a Dragline Boom with no problems through the Winter Season. Randy Lindborg noted that some of the haul trucks at his mine were modified to LED lights which do freeze over in cold wet weather.

New Innovations and Technology:

Chet Steele from Trapper Mine discussed installing a neutral grounding resistor to auxiliary power transformers to limit the arc fault magnitude.

We discussed arc flash surveys and who is responsible to conduct these studies. (Customer, OEM, or Equipment Installer) it appears that most machine manufacturers do not provide this service. They offer to assist in the study, but will not take total study responsibility.

Randy Lindborg discussed designing a new shop facility with LED lighting from the ground up. The different applications can be enhanced by use of optical filters over the lighting fixtures to tune the light to the application.

Ron Roopchansingh noted that LED lighting technology is changing fast, sometimes a product can be out of date in as little as three months.

Kyle Thomson discussed the “Lighting Lumens Map” provided by his LED Light supplier which predicted the amount of light to be provided by the new fixtures.

Ron Roopchansingh talked about Plasma Lighting as an Alternative to LED applications. Comparable costs in some applications. Ron also discussed a direct replacement for florescent tube lights (T-8 Style).

Chet Steele – Trapper Mine discussed a new application of a water pond deicer. A water agitator is to be installed about 10 feet below the surface of the pond to keep the water moving and not freeze. The unit is ready to install, and whether or not it will work through the Colorado Winter will be determined soon.

The group discussed hiring and maintaining manpower in the mining industry. Trade school graduates, co-op students, summer hires are a source of manpower. The aging workforce sharing information with younger hires can be a challenge.

Future Topics:

Mike Green - Barrick Bald Mountain would like to see WMEA sponsor MSHA Surface and Underground Annual Electrical Re-Qualification classes in conjunction with the meetings.

Future Locations:

The mandatory Hawaii Location was offered by Jason Praus.