



The Institute of Quarrying Australia
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Make your Safety Management System Work

Many sites have developed site-specific safety systems and plans. Most, but not all, view the implementation of safety improvement plans as more difficult than developing the original documentation. New resources and workshops have been developed in a joint project.

At a meeting in the middle of 2004, members of The Institute's Education Committee and the NSW Mine Safety Operations Group (then from the NSW Department of Mineral Resources now part of the NSW Department of Primary Industries, DPI) agreed that a joint project should be developed specifically for small-scale extractive industries operators to continuously improve their safety and health culture and working environments.

There are two types of workshop for small-scale extractive industries. The first type of workshop, Introduction to Safety Management, assists small-scale operators to meet their legal obligations for a Safety Management System/Plan. The workshop introduces operators to the NSW DPI's Small Mines Safety Management Kit that is discussed later in this article. The kit is a two-part guide providing information about programs that may make up a safety management plan, and 'do-it-yourself' templates to form the plan.

The second workshop, Refining Your Safety Management System/Plan, allows operators to gain additional insight into critical components of the implementation of a Safety Management Plan. It helps meet today's increased levels of due diligence and duty of care in making mine/quarry sites safe and systematically managing risk.

The Institute's primary goal is to advance the science (knowledge and application) of quarrying. A key strategy is education and support of those in the industry and these new workshops fit into that strategy. They also provide the underpinning knowledge and skills for some elements of training package competencies.

This presentation describes the workshops and provides some help in how to make your Safety Management System/Plan work.