

Top 10 health and safety risks in the surface diamond drilling sector

Emergency response time is top health and safety risk

As identified by workers, supervisors, and employers in the surface diamond drilling industry through a Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development-facilitated risk assessment workshop in partnership with Workplace Safety North, with the support of the Canadian Diamond Drillers Association.



- 1. No timely emergency response to injured** (remote location, up-to-date emergency plan)



- 6. Repetitive work resulting in injury** (rod and tube handling, repetitive motion)



- 2. Struck by chicot** (dead tree or limb)



- 7. Travel to and from drill site using utility terrain vehicle or snowmobile** (steep terrain, boulders, weather)



- 3. Worker drilling on ice cover** (drowning, hypothermia, weather conditions)



- 8. Highway or off-road travel by truck or van to, from, and on, drill sites** (drowsy driving)



- 4. Caught in pinch point** (lack of guarding, rushing, lack of pre-planning)



- 9. Injury from helicopter** (crash, contact with rotating blades)



- 5. Exposure to extreme weather event, lightning; overexposure to sun, contact with plant life, insects, wildlife** (sudden changes in environment)



- 10. Injury from heavy duty mobile equipment** (struck or crushed)

The internal responsibility system (IRS) is a system where everyone shares responsibility for occupational health and safety that is appropriate to their role and function within the workplace.

All workplace parties — including employers, managers, supervisors, and workers — need to do their part to raise awareness of risks, and follow and promote safety procedures to help make workplaces safer.

For more information, please contact your WSN Health and Safety Specialist or visit workplacesafetynorth.ca

Overview of Joint Health and Safety Committee certification and mining safety training

Focus on workplace-specific hazards - JHSC Part 1, 2, and Refresher training

JHSC Certification: Part 1 (three days)

(Disponible en français)

This mandatory course is available in three formats: self-paced e-learning, instructor-led virtual training, and instructor-led classroom training. Participants learn how to recognize, assess and control workplace hazards, the rights and duties of certified members, and how to conduct effective workplace inspections and incident investigations.

JHSC Certification: Part 2 (two days)

This mandatory course is available in two formats: instructor-led virtual or classroom training. Focusing on the concepts of recognition, assessment, and control of hazards, and evaluation of the hazard controls, participants learn how to apply these concepts to a minimum of six hazards relevant to their own workplaces. In addition, learners practise drafting action plans and recommendations for the employer.

JHSC Certification Refresher (one day)

Certified members of a joint health and safety committee are required to take Refresher Training within three years of becoming certified, and every three years thereafter to maintain their certification.

Failure to meet this requirement may result in revocation of a member's certification status by Ontario's Chief Prevention Officer.

This CPO-approved course reviews core elements of the Part 1 and Part 2 certification program.

Also available

WSN Training Programs for Mining Supervisor Common Core

- OHS Act and Mining Regulations
- Ground Control - Underground
- Incident Investigation
- Introduction to Safety Programs
- Manage Employees
- Mine Ventilation - Underground
- Occupational Health and Hygiene
- Planned Inspection and Observation
- Practise Effective Communication
- Prepare for Emergencies - Underground

Other recommended training

Duly Diligent Mining Supervisor

Supervisor Drug and Alcohol Awareness Training

About Workplace Safety North

Your health and safety partner

An independent not-for-profit, Workplace Safety North (WSN) is one of four sector-based health and safety associations in Ontario.

Headquartered in northern Ontario, WSN provides province-wide Ministry-approved workplace health and safety training and services for the mining and forest products industries.

A leading provider of health and safety training and consulting, businesses call upon WSN for expert advice and information.



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