

**AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING AN ALLIANCE
BETWEEN
THE MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AND
THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BRIDGE, STRUCTURAL,
ORNAMENTAL AND REINFORCING IRON WORKERS**

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers (Iron Workers Union) recognize the value of establishing a collaborative relationship to foster safer and more healthful working conditions at the Nation's mining operations. MSHA and the Iron Workers Union hereby form an alliance to use their collective expertise and effort to help foster a culture of prevention and preparedness by sharing best practices and technical knowledge.

MSHA and the Iron Workers Union will work cooperatively through the Alliance to promote safe and healthful working conditions for mine workers and ironworkers by:

- Working together to establish performance improvement goals and performance measurements for worker safety and health in construction;
- Collaborating on worker safety and health improvement techniques in structural steel erection, welding, rigging, reinforcing, fall protection, concrete erection and demolition;
- Providing information, education and training, and technical assistance to help prevent injuries and illnesses and protect worker safety and health;
- Expanding communications between MSHA and the Iron Workers Union on worker safety and health issues;
- Collaborating on emergency response, rescue and recovery techniques for construction and demolition sites;
- Sharing technical information related to hazardous materials and worker protections for mine construction projects; and
- Identifying potentially hazardous safety and health conditions and practices to which the Alliance should direct particular attention and resources.

MSHA and Iron Workers Union will work together to achieve the following education and training goals to improve worker health and safety:

- Develop training programs for workers working on or near mine construction projects;
- Develop and share best practices and effective approaches to improve safety and health on and near mine construction projects; and
- Optimize use of MSHA's National Mine Health and Safety Academy and the Iron Workers' National Ironworkers Instructor Training and Regional Training programs.

MSHA and Iron Workers Union will strive to achieve the following outreach and communications goals:

- Develop and disseminate information on worker safety and health issues at conferences, events, or through print and electronic media, including links from MSHA's and Iron Workers Union's web sites; and
- Proactively address worker safety and health issues by speaking, exhibiting, presenting at conferences, meetings and other events.

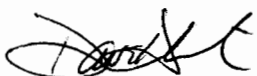
MSHA and Iron Workers Union will participate in the following activities to promote a national dialogue on worker safety and health issues:

- Raise awareness and demonstrate commitment to worker safety and health whenever MSHA or Iron Workers Union leaders address groups;
- Share information on best practices as jointly determined by MSHA and Iron Workers Union with others in the industry and through individual or joint outreach. Promote the implementation of best practices through print or electronic media, at conferences or by other means of outreach;
- Perform worker injury and illness case studies and publicize the results through print, electronic media, promotion at conferences, or other means of outreach; and
- Convene or participate in forums, round table discussions, or stakeholder meetings to forge innovative solutions to worker health and safety issues.

An implementation team made up of representatives of both organizations will meet to develop a plan of action, determine working procedures, and identify the roles and responsibilities of the participants. The participants will meet at least quarterly to track and share information on activities and results in achieving the goals of the Alliance.

Unless otherwise extended, this agreement will remain in effect until December 31, 2006. Either signatory may terminate it for any reason at any time, provided they give 30 days written notice. This agreement may be modified at any time with the concurrence of both signatories.

Dave D. Lauriski

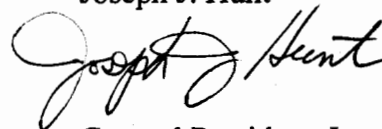


Assistant Secretary of Labor
for Mine Safety and Health

Date

July 18, 2004

Joseph J. Hunt



General President, International
Association of Bridge, Structural,
Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron
Workers

Date

July 18, 2004