

AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING AN ALLIANCE
BETWEEN
THE MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AND
THE NATIONAL STONE, SAND AND GRAVEL ASSOCIATION

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association (NSSGA) recognize the value of establishing a collaborative relationship to foster safer and more healthful aggregate operations in the United States. MSHA and NSSGA hereby form an Alliance to use their collective expertise to help foster a culture of prevention by sharing best practices and technical knowledge.

MSHA and NSSGA agree to establish an Alliance to promote safe and healthful working conditions for stone, sand and gravel workers by:

- Embracing mine safety and health performance goals with objective performance metrics.
- Providing NSSGA members with information, education and training, and technical assistance to help them prevent injuries and illnesses and protect miners' safety and health.
- Expanding outreach and communications on mine safety and health matters.

MSHA and NSSGA will work together to achieve the following education and training goals:

- Develop training and education programs on reducing and preventing mine hazards.
- Develop and share best practices and effective approaches to improve mine safety and health.

MSHA and NSSGA will work together to achieve the following technical assistance goals:

- Conduct evaluations of applied engineering to improve mine safety and health.
- Conduct analyses to identify potentially hazardous health and safety conditions to which the Alliance should direct particular attention and resources.

MSHA and NSSGA will work together to achieve the following outreach and communication goals:

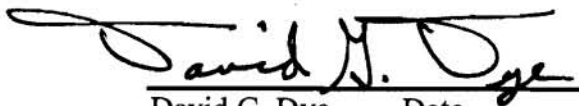
- Develop and disseminate information on mine safety and health at conferences, events, or through print and electronic media, including links from MSHA's and NSSGA's Web sites.
- Speak, exhibit, or appear at conferences, meetings or other events and proactively address mine safety and health issues.

MSHA and NSSGA will work together to achieve the following goals related to promoting the national dialogue on mine safety and health:

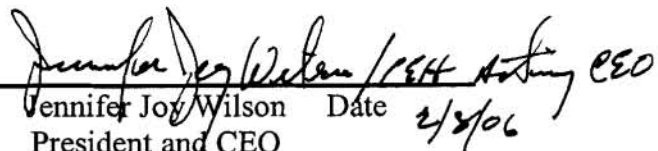
- Raise others' awareness of and demonstrate their own commitment to mine safety and health whenever MSHA or NSSGA leaders address groups.
- Share information on best practices and effective approaches, as jointly determined by MSHA and NSSGA, with others in the mining industry through individual or joint outreach and through MSHA – or NSSGA – developed training programs and materials. Promote the implementation of these practices and approaches through print or electronic media, at conferences or by other means of outreach.
- There shall be a special emphasis on cooperatively working with state aggregate associations in helping them improve the health and safety working conditions for their members' employees.
- Perform mine safety and health case studies and publicize their results through print or electronic media, promotion at conferences, or other means of outreach.
- Convene or participate in forums, round table discussions, or stakeholder meetings on opportunities to help forge innovative solutions to challenging safety and health issues in mines or to provide input on such 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. In addition, they 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, 2008. 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.

 2/8/06

David G. Dye Date
Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor
for Mine Safety and Health

 2/8/06

Jennifer Joy Wilson Date
President and CEO
National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association