

Mine Rescue Team Communication System

Characteristics

- Medium Frequency
- Inductive Radio Components
- MSHA Approved
- Easy to Deploy
- Battery Powered

Users

- 75% of New South Wales, Australia Mines
 Rescue Centers at present
- MSHA purchased set for Beckley, WV in mid-1990's
- Several (2?) Mines in U.S.

Typical Deployment

- 3 Handheld Radios on Rescue Team
- 1 Section Radio at Fresh Air Base











Present Status

- 1993 Design Presently Deployed
- 2005 Design in Prototype Testing
- May 2006 Expected Completion for A&CC Intrinsic Safety Submission

Where MSHA Can Help

- Prioritize (Fast-Track) Approval Process
- Minimize Approval Costs at A&CC
 Small Market, Small Companies

 Place Less Emphasis on Trophy Competition. Place More Emphasis on Realistic, Site-Oriented Training



Vehicle and Personnel Tracking System

Characteristics

- Low-Power, Short-Range, Burst Transmitters (Tags)
- Operate at UHF
- Stationary Tracking Receivers
- Part of Atmospheric Monitoring System

Deployment Methods

Transmitter

- Magnetic Mount to Machines
- Can be Modified and Submitted to MSHA as a Smaller Unit. (Stand-Alone or Cap Lamp)



Receiver

- Attached to 4-Conductor, Copper AMS Cable. Power and Data.
- Strategically Placed in Mine

- Typical Range ~ 100 feet
- Logs of Station Activity Available on Surface Computer



Planned Improvements

 Portable Receiver for Use With Search and Rescue Operations.

Important Design Criteria

• System Must be:

Intrinsically Safe

Reliable

Economical

Rugged

Accurate Within Reason

Functionally Simple