

**Conrad Spangler**, Director for Mineral Mining, VDMM

Regarding contractor listing and training – at least 20% of all miners we train are contractor workers and 12% of our workforce is contractors.

We regulate various types of mineral mining in VA – salt, gold gem, kyanite, sand iron vermiculite clay shale gravel limestone, etc

From 1994 to 2004 - 3 miner fatalities, 4 contractor fatalities – 36 serious injuries to miners and 18 serious injuries to contractors in VA.

If a VA mine inspector has reasonable cause to believe a violation of Act has occurred; he/she shall issue a notice of violation to the person who is responsible for the violation. (Section 45.1-161.292:63)

Mr. Spangler expanded on the use of online forms for their agency, such as:

- application form for operations in state
- mineral mining annual report for contractors

The Division of Mineral Mining uses the information provided for risk assessment of both mine and contractors; fatal and serious injury rates; injury frequency rates, etc.

The agency is able to promote general mineral miner certifications and address safety concerns on individual basis. They have a Board of Mineral Mining Examiners, a 9 member panel, including one appointed member who is an employee of an independent contractor; one appointed member who is an officer, manager or supervisor of an independent contractor.

In accordance with VA state regulations, each operator shall have a training plan consisting of new miners, newly-employed experienced miners, new tasks, annual refresher, hazard training.

The Division of Mineral Mining has made Innovative use of stickers being used as records of training – can be worn on hard hats instead of the 5000-23 forms kept on person.