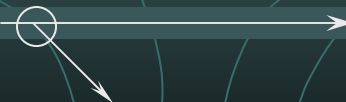




An Update on OSM's Underground Mine Map Initiative



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Issues of concern

- Getting maps into digital format
- Managing data and data standards
- Georeferencing and GIS issues
- Availability of maps and liability for use

A vertical strip on the left side of the slide shows a portion of a topographic map with contour lines and a yellow line, possibly representing a road or boundary.

Summary of OSM Initiative

- GOAL: Making as many accurate UG mine maps available to as many customers as possible
- Includes and builds on ongoing State and Federal efforts
- Builds on TIPS and other OSM/State partnerships
- Focused on delivering the needed product and capacity building
- Serves AML, regulatory and health and safety goals



Details of the Initiative

- Identification of best practices and creation of voluntary standards (this workshop)
- Establishment of underground mine mapping centers of expertise (including NMMR)
- Acquisition of underground mine maps
- Development of distributed “structure” to provide maps over the internet

Current Status

- 2005 Benchmarking workshop related to best practices/standards (this meeting)
- Working with lessors/States on liability issues
- Development of geo-referencing class (TIPS)
- Integration with NMMR 5-year plan
- FY '06 Budget proposal
 - Funding building of State capability and additional resources for NMMR
 - Approximately \$500,000 in FY '06 budget



Key Points to Consider

- Cooperation and coordination is necessary
- Understanding the current status and best practices are keys to identifying future needs
- Funding to improve map availability and quality is necessary
- Benefits outweigh costs...working to quantify

Potential potholes

- Available funding and resources may limit scope
 - Current resource request a “drop in the bucket” compared to total need of perhaps \$30-40 million
 - Bad timing for new initiatives
- Other priorities within OSM (e.g., AML reauthorization)
- Window of opportunity may be closing (long time since Quecreek)



Future efforts

- Continued cooperation with the States and others to use/develop the best available tools
- Rallying continued support and new funding resources
- Capability building among States and NMMR
- Addressing existing mine maps and availability of those maps
- Development of a coordinated plan