



ROCK TALK

KENTUCKY CRUSHED STONE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

- April 2010 -

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2010 KHI Scholarships Awarded

The Kentucky Highway Industries (KHI) Scholarship Committee, co-chaired by Les Gerald, Roger's Group, Inc., and Jim Wright, Hinkle Contracting Corporation, recently announced the 2010 Scholarship Award Recipients. The total allocation of \$59,500 will be distributed to the students during the 2010-2011 school year. Since 1998, \$318,750 has been awarded to deserving students to help them achieve their educational goals.

A total of 25 students received scholarships this year. Three Students received scholarships of \$1,500 each to pursue a vocational degree. The 22 students that received money for a bachelor's degree received \$2,500 each. Of those students, six were freshmen, five were sophomores, five were juniors, and six were seniors.

The Kentucky Highway Industries is comprised of the Kentucky Crushed Stone Association, Plantmix Asphalt Industry of Kentucky, and the Kentucky Association of Highway Contractors.

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KCSA Letter to Federal Delegation

After the tragic Upper Big Branch coal mine explosion in West Virginia in early April, President Obama requested a sweeping review of coal mine safety regulations. On April 16, 2010, KCSA sent a personalized letter to all members of the Kentucky Federal Delegation with a caution to recognize the important differences between

aggregates mining and coal mining. Below is a copy of the letter sent and an NSSGA fact sheet on Coal vs. Stone mining that was included in the mailing.

Dear Senator/Representative:

We have been following with keen interest articles in Kentucky's newspapers and the TV coverage on the tragic disaster at the Upper Big Branch coal mine in West Virginia. The loss of even one life, much less 29 lives, is devastating.

It's likely that over the next few weeks and months mine safety will be a major focus of many federal lawmakers, regulators and the public, and rightly so. But we think it's timely to point out that coal extraction is not the only type of mining activity that exists in the United States. Too often, the public is not aware of the critical differences among the various mining industries and assume, incorrectly, that all mining is the same.

The National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association represents the crushed stone, sand and gravel—or construction aggregates—production industries, the Kentucky Crushed Stone Association does the same for the producers in Kentucky. Construction aggregates are used primarily to make asphalt and concrete for roads, highways and bridges, and buildings, treatment plants and the like.

Coal mining and aggregates production are very different. NSSGA member companies produce more than 90 percent of the crushed stone and 70 percent of the sand and gravel consumed annually in the United States. Nearly two billion tons of aggregates were produced in 2009 at a value of approximately \$17.2 billion, contributing nearly \$40 billion to the GDP of the United States.

Of the total number of miners in America, approximately one-half, or 111,400, are employed at one of the 10,000 stone, sand and gravel operations nationwide. Since stone, sand and gravel do not burn or produce explosive gasses and can generally be mined from the surface, the safety issues are quite different from those at other types of mines. Please see the attached Fact Sheet for further details.

The simple fact that over the past dozen years, there has not been a single multi-fatality incident in the aggregates production industry is further evidence of the difference in safety issues. The national aggregates industry injury incidence rate for 2009 was 2.46, the lowest ever recorded. Kentucky's aggregate incidence rate for 2009 was 2.136 down from 4.187 in 2000. Considering aggregates move about 2.0 billion metric tons of stone, sand and gravel a year, the safety record of our members is noteworthy.

This very issue was the subject of a TV news feature on April 8. NSSGA member Louis Griesemer of Springfield Underground, Springfield, Mo., gave an insightful interview that clearly spells out the differences between the coal and aggregates mining industries. You may see the interview at <http://www.ky3.com/news/local/90317357.html>.

We stand against a "one-size-fits-all" mentality among lawmakers and regulators that disregard the pronounced differences between the coal and aggregates industries. We are here to answer any questions you may have about the aggregates industry and its safety performance record.

Sincerely,

*Ronald H. Gray
Executive Director*

Enclosure: NSSGA Fact Sheet (Coal vs. Stone)

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NATIONAL STONE, SAND & GRAVEL ASSOCIATION FACT SHEET

How Underground Aggregates (Stone) Mines Differ from Other Underground Mines

NOTE: Of the more than 10,000 aggregates facilities nationwide, only about one percent operate underground.

- Extracted aggregate product is non-combustible and non-flammable;
- No flammable gases such as methane are present;
- Most underground aggregate facilities are only a few hundred feet deep;
- The stable geologic formations result in a minimized need for additional roof supports;
- MSHA-approved (permissible) equipment is not required in stone facilities such that automobiles, haul trucks and loaders can be used;
- Extraction methods create large open spaces for easy access by oversized mobile equipment;
- Large mine openings accommodate emergency equipment used by outside emergency services;
- Increased ventilation due to large open spaces and different geology eliminates combustible dust potential;
- No rail man-ways or vertical man-lifts are needed to transport employees to/from working face of mine; standard modes of wheeled transportation apply
- Emergency escape and access is easier because of larger spaces in facility;
- Minimal need for certified mine rescue teams because local fire departments, or emergency services, are able to respond;
- Due to size of large open spaces, mining methods do not require remote-controlled operation of mining equipment;
- Mechanical mine ventilation usually not required or is minimal; natural ventilation works well.



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Meeting with Joe Main to be Rescheduled

The meeting with Joe Main, Assistant Secretary of Labor for MSHA, (originally scheduled for April 22nd) was cancelled and is being rescheduled for sometime in June. KCSA will let you know the new date as soon as it has been determined.

Seven states are invited to attend the meeting (Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, Illinois, Iowa and Missouri). Incidence Rates in Kentucky, Separation of Metal/Non-Metal from Coal, and Consistency of Enforcement are topics that will be addressed at the meeting. If you have issues you would like to have addressed at the meeting, please email those issues to Ron Gray at ron@kycsa.org.

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Fugitive Dust

*By Mary Jo Harrod
Division of Compliance Assistance*

Along with the summer heat comes dust—from unpaved roads, plowed fields, construction sites and other sources. Fugitive dust “means the emissions of any air contaminant into the open air other than from a stack or air pollution control equipment exhaust,” according to Kentucky regulations. Fugitive dust comes from unintentional wind or human activities that disturb the soil or unpaved roads. It has been reported that unpaved roads alone produce about 10 million tons of particulate matter air pollution each year in the United States.

Mining, manufacturing, transportation and utilities also produce fugitive dust. This dust, though usually not toxic, creates a harmful atmosphere because it sends particulate matter into the air, having an adverse effect on the health of sensitive populations, such as babies, the elderly and anyone with respiratory problems. Fine particles are permanently trapped in the outer reaches of the lungs, reducing lung capacity.

Visibility on unpaved roads is greatly diminished in the presence of fugitive dust, which increases the chances of accidents. Dust coats buildings and vehicles and manages to invade interior spaces, becoming a nuisance to the occupants. Electronics and mechanical equipment also suffer from the abrasive and damaging nature of dust. In severe cases, plant pores can become clogged, disrupting their growth and possibly killing the plant or tree.

What is done in one location can definitely affect areas around the world. An interesting discovery is that dust particles from Asia and Africa can be found in the United States. According to a NASA News Web site, an article from 2001 stated, “Scientists recently used NASA satellites to track a cloud of dust up to 2,000 km long as it left Asia, drifted across the Pacific Ocean, and traversed North America from Alaska to Florida, raining dust and possibly pollutants over the continent.”

States have individual laws controlling fugitive dust. Kentucky’s regulation can be found at <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/kar/401/063/010.htm>. Basically, the regulation says that reasonable precaution must be taken to prevent particulate matter from becoming airborne. Open-bodied trucks operating outside company property must be covered to prevent materials from blowing out of the truck. Water or chemicals may be used to control dust, as well as applying and maintaining asphalt on roads, materials stockpiles and other surfaces. Install and use hoods, fans and fabric filters to enclose and vent the handling of dusty materials or use water sprays or other measures to suppress the dust during handling. Paved roadways must be kept in clean condition. When dust, fumes, gases, mist, odorous matter or vapors escape and become a nuisance or violate a regulation, the building or equipment may be required to be tightly closed and meet certain ventilation specifications.

In an average year, approximately 205 citations for fugitive dust are given out, but a very high number were given for the year 2007, most likely due to the severe drought Kentucky experienced. Here are the actual numbers of citations given in Kentucky for fugitive dust violations.

| Year | # of Citations |
|------|----------------|
| 2007 | 560 |
| 2006 | 209 |
| 2005 | 212 |
| 2004 | 195 |

In order to avoid having problems with fugitive dust and help protect the environment, individuals and businesses can incorporate best management practices that include windbreaks and barriers, frequent water applications, application of soil additives, control of vehicle access, vehicle speed restrictions, covering of piles, use of gravel or water at site exit points to remove caked-on dirt from tires and tracks, washing of equipment at the end of each work day and prior to site removal, wet sweeping of public thoroughfares and work stoppage. For those sectors that routinely have issues with fugitive dust, such as coal processing and nonmetallic mineral operations, incorporating these recommendations into a fugitive dust management plan and educating employees on fugitive dust can provide a means to control emissions and protect the environment and human health.

If you have questions about complying with Kentucky's fugitive dust standards, contact the Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance. This agency offers free help to anyone needing information and technical assistance related to environmental requirements. Call 800-926-8111 or visit www.dca.ky.gov.

For more information about fugitive dust, see

Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air and Radiation

www.epa.gov

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

http://www.deq.state.id.us/air/prog_issues/pollutants/dust_control_plan.pdf

NASA News

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2001/ast26jun_1.htm

Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality

<http://www.deq.state.ne.us/Publica.nsf/0/48b60f1d4f66c38e05256c55007724ce?OpenDocument>

Nevada Small Business Development Center

<http://www.nsbdcnep.org/pages/fugitivedust.htm>

University of Missouri Extension

<http://extension.missouri.edu/xplor/agguides/agengin/g01885.htm>

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Boyd Company Finalizes Purchase of Walker Machinery, West Virginia and Southeastern Ohio CAT Dealer

(Louisville, Kentucky) March 31, 2010 -- Boyd Company, LLC has completed the acquisition of the Cecil I. Walker Machinery Co., the Caterpillar equipment dealer in West Virginia and southeastern Ohio. Terms and details regarding the sale were not disclosed.

Boyd Company is solely owned by Monty L. Boyd, who is the current president and owner of Whayne Supply Company, the Caterpillar equipment dealer headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky. Caterpillar Inc. has approved Boyd Company to represent CAT products in the existing Walker territory, consisting of 25 counties in West Virginia and 8 counties in southeastern Ohio. Boyd's current plans are to continue operating Walker Machinery separately under the Walker name.

"I am confident that the experienced and dedicated Walker employees and management team will make this transition as seamless to the customers and suppliers" said Monty Boyd. "This is a company that has an excellent reputation, and a loyal customer base thanks to their focus on exceptional customer service," said Boyd.

The Walker family owned and operated Walker Machinery for 59 years as a heavy equipment distributor and has been a Caterpillar equipment dealer for the past 56 years. It has eight locations in West Virginia and two in Ohio. The company has approximately 700 employees.

Whayne Supply Company was founded in Louisville, Kentucky in 1913, and is one of the oldest and largest Caterpillar dealers in the United States. The company has approximately 1,300 employees with facilities in 12 cities across Kentucky and southern Indiana. Whayne also operates 13 Whayne, The CAT Rental Stores within its territory.

"The purchase of Walker Machinery is consistent with my vision for strategic growth across familiar markets – markets in which we have historically been successful," said Boyd. The two company's roots are planted firmly in service to the eastern US coal industry.

"Walker Machinery has a significant presence in the West Virginia and southeastern Ohio coal markets, and Whayne has nearly a century of service to the coal industry, especially in eastern Kentucky. I am excited about the new opportunities that the Walker expansion provides, including the addition of many long term, dedicated, skilled employees. It's a good fit all around," said Boyd.

For more information about Walker Machinery or Whayne Supply go to:

[www. Walker-cat.com](http://www.Walker-cat.com)

or www.whayne.com

Contact Information:

Breese Watson, Whayne Supply, 502-774-4441

Roger Lilly, Walker Machinery, 304-949-6400

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North American Limestone to open Kentucky Operation

North American Limestone Corp. announced that its wholly owned subsidiary, Ohio River Trading Company, has entered into an agreement with Iron Mountain Trap Rock Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Fred Weber Inc. Under the agreement, Iron Mountain Trap Rock will provide operational

resources and services at the company's Cherry Grove crushed stone quarry in Todd County, Kentucky, near the town of Trenton. Cherry Grove contains more than 40 million tons of high-quality limestone reserves.

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Save the Date

Southeast Central Kentucky Mine Rescue Contest

Dates: May 18-20, 2010

Location: Maysville, Kentucky

Contact: greg.black@carmeusena.com or Sammy Linville at sammylinville@yahoo.com

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Meeting Information

2010 KCSA Summer Meeting

July 7-11, 2010

Nashville, TN

Gaylord Opryland Resort

- If you would like for an employee to receive this newsletter, please forward the email address to info@kycsa.org.
- Let us know if your company has news to be included in the KCSA newsletter, info@kycsa.org.

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