

## WESTERN REGION MASTER MECHANIC MINUTES September 27, 2007

Kevin Hughes has resigned as an officer – is there anyone that would like to fill this vacant position?

Carlos Guzman opened meeting with financial report, joint account with Underground has almost \$9,000.00 in it.

If anyone needs a donation or needs funds to sponsor a worthy cause, please get in touch with Carlos.

Some have been discussing having a meeting in Reno, which is a lot of work to prepare for and would probably use up all the money in the joint account.

### BEST PRACTICES

#### Round Mountain

When working on the air intake system on dusted engines they verify with the air borne filter sonic gun to find air leaks from bad gaskets before they go back into service. When they have dirt in an oil sample they are able to find the source pretty quick. Using the sound generator in the air intake side with the engine shut off you tune the gun to that frequency. It takes a little bit of training, you have to understand how the gun works and how sound travels. It has been found with a lot of the larger engines that just with the intake clamps being over-tightened or under-tightened slightly you can just adjust them a little bit to get them sealed up completely. They use a group of trainers with three master mechanics who are trained and in turn train the crew trainer and so on down the line. Anytime any work is done that may disturb the intake system they verify before the equipment goes back to work that it is sealed up. At this time there is no procedure written up, it is a fairly small group so it is easy to control, eventually there will be a task card outlining the key steps to procedure.

Are switching their 789's to light weight beds, have been having really good luck with light weight beds on the 793's, currently have 13 beds on order.

Round Mountain is looking for a used 120 ton – 150 ton hydraulic crane to purchase, if anyone knows of one please let them know.

## Kennecott

They have had a lot of metal shard incidents this year. Working on trying to eliminate these by using little air jack hammers instead of sledge hammers. The little air hammers are supposed to have a lot smaller impact to lower the vibration. Other ideas given included; always using leather chaps and sleeves, shield the area to protect the innocent person walking by, and using special hammers that aren't as likely to cause chipping. Every one agreed that if they are not wearing their protection, leather aprons and sleeves, there are going to be incidents. This is still an issue with all mines.

Presentation on Dusted Engines by Bob Argo of Smith Detroit was postponed until some issues have been resolved.

Arnold uses a "Field Level Risk Assessment" card for safety.

Cashman Equipment will not certify unless there is a representative from the dealership present for inspection, replacement, check welds, etc. They have also put out a seat maintenance interval schedule for replacement and inspections of all Cat comfort seats. Newmont and Cashman together are putting in a 160,000 sq ft building for parts.

Smith Detroit will now have two technicians, in the cab, involved on load testing of a haul truck – one person to operate the truck and one to facilitate the testing.

Cortez and Barrick Goldstrike are now sharing procedures and reviewing them to start both properties using same procedures.

## CLOSING

All agreed they would like to see more mine participation. When you receive the agenda for upcoming meetings, would you please forward to anyone else that you may think of.

If you have any ideas for presentations for up-coming meetings, please be sure to pass them on.

Also, don't forget that we will need some one to fill the vacancy position.

## PRESENTATIONS

Cortez Gold Mines – Dave Melton  
Resource leveled scheduling tool

Hedweld USA Inc. – John Littleton  
Equipment Access Ladders

One Eye Industries, Inc. – Rob Albee  
Magnetic Filtration Solutions

Barrick Goldstrike – Wayde Esplin  
Equipment Diagnostics using Vibration Analysis