



ROUND TABLE GROUP
Information Submission on
Fatal / Significant Events

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Author	Round Table Group
Approval	Round Table Group

Reference RT Charter #1

Elimination of Fatalities and Major Incidents - A statesman role in understanding and addressing industry hazards that may result in fatalities or major incidents.

COMPANY:		Fatality	Incident	Property Damage	Process Loss
DATE OF EVENT:	26 Mar 2008				
TIME OF EVENT:	1605 hrs		X		
DESCRIPTION OF EVENT:	<p>The General Foreman D&B planned to blast on the RL210 level of the pit at 3:30PM. He held a blasting meeting at the 8:00 AM production meeting with all Load & Haul, Project and Dewatering Foremen. At 2:45PM they began moving the equipment in blast area to a safe distance. The L&H Foremen and Dewatering Foreman began picking up operators in the blast area. During this time two L&H Equipment operators who were supporting dewatering booster installations moved their equipment from the immediate area of the boosters and awaited pickup. The Dewatering Foreman upon clearing the last of his personnel did not see the equipment operators and assumed they had been picked up by load and haul personnel. The General Foreman D&B, and Senior Foreman L&H conducted the final clearing of the blast area to ensure the area was clear and also did not see any personnel in the area. Around 4.10PM the General Foreman D&B gave the go ahead to the Blasting foreman to proceed with the blast (West bench RL210). After blasting they found one excavator operator and one dozer operator still in the area, approximately 250 meters from the blast area.</p>				
DIRECT / UNDERLYING CAUSES:	<p>Sub standard Act:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6. Position for task: Two operators still in the blasting area (250 meters). • 15. Failure to warn: Two operators did not receive any blasting information. • 16. Failure to secure: Failures to ensure all operators were outside the blasting area. • 20. Failure to follow procedure: Inadequate clearance before blasting • 22. Failure to check/monitor: Foreman dewatering and Operators did not properly clear his area before blasting. • 24. Failure to communicate: The Foreman did not inform the operators about blasting time. <p>Sub standard condition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11. Inadequate alarm, Warning systems. No siren in PU 333 which was used for blast clearing activity. The blasting foreman used the vehicle horn to announce the blasting on radio channel 20. <p align="center">Under investigation</p>				



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RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

- **2.7. Inadequate coordination/communication:** between the foremen involved in the blast clearing.
 - **Under investigation**
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- Improve blasting clearance procedures and communication with departments that have personnel working within the mining area.
 - All General Foremen Load & Haul and Drill & Blast vehicles will be equipped with blast sirens in order to assist with blast clearing procedures.
 - **Under investigation**

Blasting
area



Position of
excavator
operator
and dozer
operator



Location
after
blasting