



# Preventing Coal Dust Explosions in Underground Coal Mines

**Free Workshop and Webinar**  
**NIOSH Office of Mine Safety and Health Research**  
**Bruceton Research Center**  
**Tuesday, January 24, 2012 · 9:15 to 11:45 AM**

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's Office of Mine Safety and Health Research will host a free webinar and workshop on coal dust explosions.

The workshop will be held in the multi-purpose room of building 140 at the Bruceton Research Center, Tuesday, January 24 from 9:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Progress has been made in explosion prevention. However, changing mining conditions and the fact that coal dust explosions still occur require periodic assessments of current practices. The new 80% incombustible content (IC) standard and the recent commercialization of the Coal Dust Explosibility Meter (CDEM), offer the opportunity to further reduce the probability of a dust explosion.

The presentation is designed to describe the use of the CDEM as a powerful tool to help prevent coal dust explosions. The science of explosion prevention as well as current practices will be reviewed and a brief summary of current NIOSH coal dust explosion research will be presented. NIOSH staff will be available to answer questions.

This workshop is intended for mine operators, engineers, regulators, researchers, and others with an interest in explosion prevention. There will be an opportunity, for both attendees and those watching via the webinar, to ask questions.

To attend the webinar, please register no later than Thursday, January 19, 2012 by sending an email request to Joy Lamars ([jlamars@cdc.gov](mailto:jlamars@cdc.gov), 412-386-6472). You will be notified of the computer log-on and call-in information. If you are able to attend in person, please register by contacting Joy Lamars. Directions for on-site attendance can be found at the following website <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/aboutus/visitors.htm>.

U.S. citizens require a valid photo ID to gain entry to the property. For non-U.S. citizens, please contact Joy Lamars, by January 6, 2012, so that the appropriate information can be gathered and entered into the CDC Visitor Management System.



**[www.cdc.gov/NIOSH/Mining](http://www.cdc.gov/NIOSH/Mining)**



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## AGENDA

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|--------------------|--|
| 9:15 - 9:30 a.m.   | Welcome and Introductory Remarks<br><i>R.J. Matetic, PhD</i><br><i>Director, Division of Mining Research Operations</i>  |
| 9:30 - 10:10 a.m.  | Problem definition—prevention of coal dust explosions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explosion risk due to presence of un-neutralized coal dust</li><li>• Application of research results to development of rock dust inerting criteria</li><li>• Impact of coal dust particle size on flame propagation and inerting limits</li><li>• Impact of percent incombustible content (IC) on explosibility and development of the new 80% IC standard</li></ul> |
| 10:10 - 11:15 a.m. | Use of the Coal Dust Explosibility Meter (CDEM) to verify rock dust percentage <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Application</li><li>• Calibration</li><li>• Operation</li><li>• Discussion on use of CDEM to improve mine safety</li></ul>  |
| 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. | Update on current research and wrap-up   |



[www.cdc.gov/NIOSH/Mining](http://www.cdc.gov/NIOSH/Mining)