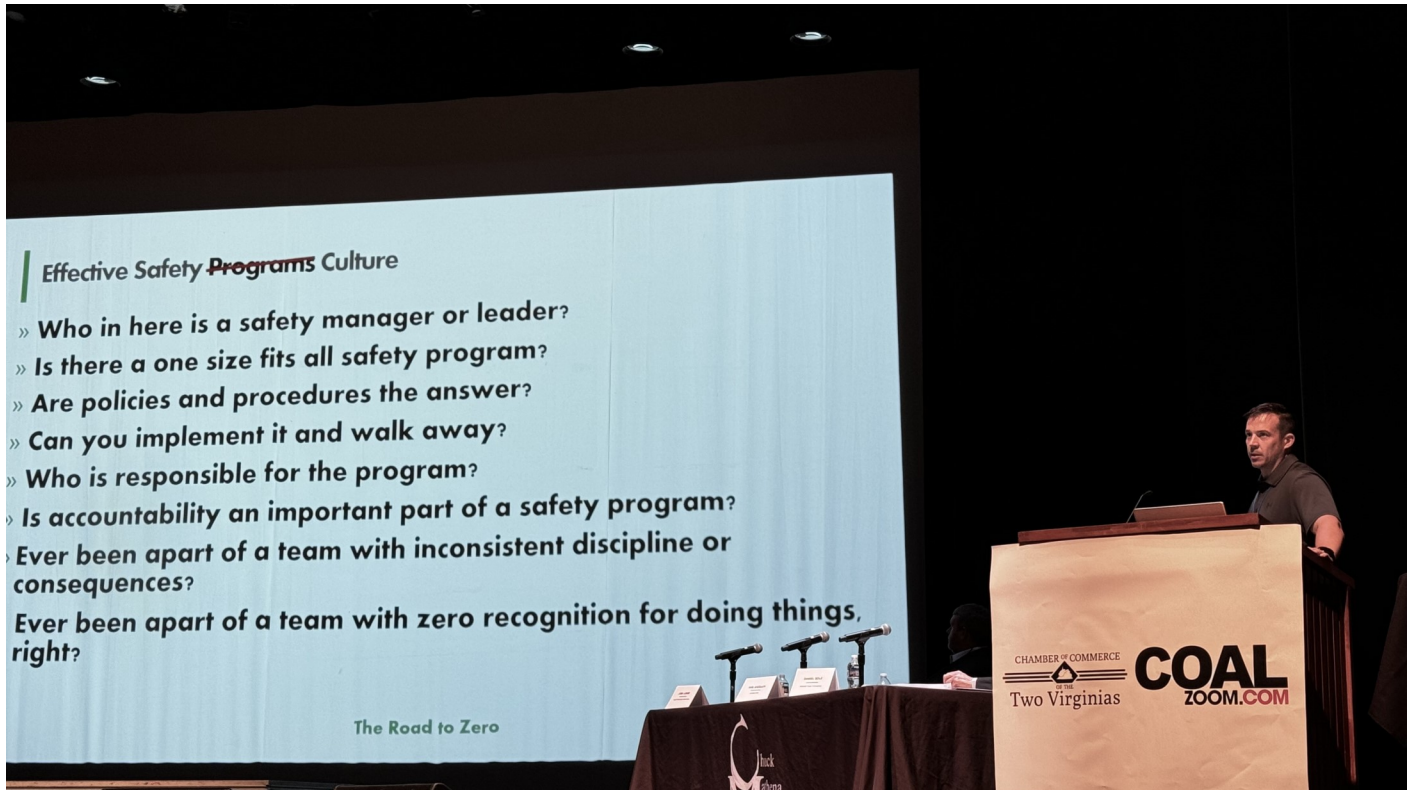


Day 2 of Bluefield Coal Symposium Focuses on Mine Safety



Danial Sole, United Coal Co., Metinvest, Talks Mine Safety

According to Symposium Chair, Bill Reid, and Managing Editor of CoalZoom.com: “The first aim of the Symposium is to aid the search for zero fatalities in coal mines and Session 1 – The Road to Zero, is dedicated to just that. NIOSH prepared a special paper for the Symposium called “Analysis of Coal Mining Accidents” and a group of industry experts commented on their area of expertise and made recommendations on how to prevent fatal accidents.”

The speakers in Session 1 included: Stephen G. Sawyer, PhD., Director, NIOSH Pittsburgh Research Center; Eddie Bailey, Assistant District Manager, Beckley District, MSHA; Paul Krivokuca, VP of Health & Safety, National Mining Association; Bob Sherack, Vice President Mining Products, Komatsu; Josh Judge, Vice President of Safety, Eagle Specialty Materials; and Daniel Sole, AVP Safety, Metinvest-United Coal.

Krivokuca said that those companies participating in CORESafety reduced their accidents by 73% 2011-2023. See presentation [here](#). The refreshed CORESafety will be internationally recognized. Professionals should continuously examine safety goals and look for places to improve. All levels of employees should be involved.

Sawyer (see presentation [here](#)) concluded that fatal and non-fatal injury counts are decreasing but so is employment so rates are steady. Small mines have higher fatality rates than larger mines. The major categories of fatal accidents for underground fatalities are in powered haulage while operating equipment and falls of roof while operating equipment. The major category of non-fatal accidents is materials handling.

Sole emphasized hazard recognition and training and said that the three important focuses were Task Training, Job Safet Analysis (JSA), and Job Safety Observations (see presentation [here](#)). Front line supervisors should be monitored for conducting effective task training.

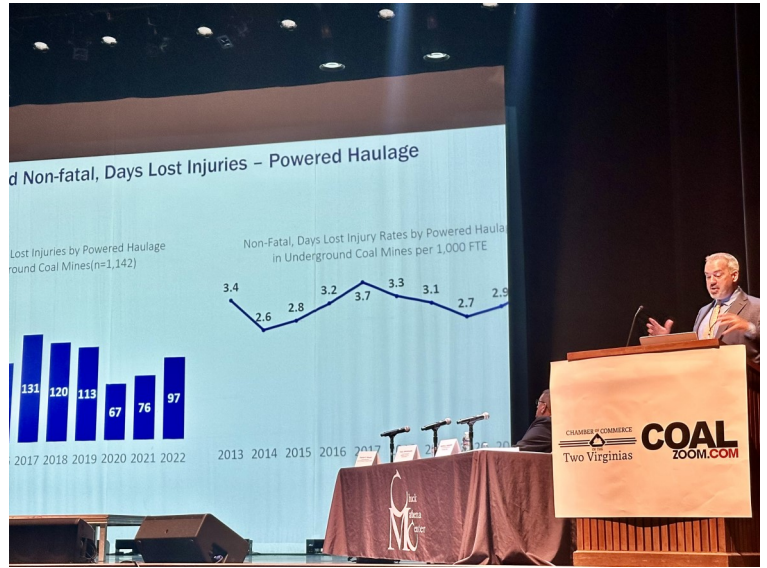
Sherack gave an overview of Komatsu Underground Division (Joy), which has 4,550 employees and an operating fleet of 3,000. The Joy safety effort is focused on removing operators from harm’s way by technology integrators providing quality and reliability to customers as well as data solutions with real-time data driving productivity improvement. Advanced automation removes operators from the hazardous environment. Automation has six levels comprising warn op-

erator, guide operator, support operator, conditional automation, highly automated and fully automated. Joy works with customers in refining automation in Australia, China, Poland and U.S.

Judge said that the object of the safety program is to engage the entire organization in working together to develop a safety culture, and continually improving the safety performance at each and every location (see presentation [here](#)). Culture, core values and principals are important as are communication, involvement and commitment. Safety tools include: Cardinal Safety Rules, Job Safety Analysis (JSA), Hazard Recognition, Minimum Performance Standards, and Safety Observations.



Sole Speaks While Judge, Sherack and Reid Listen Attentively



Steve Sawyer, Director, NIOSH, Pittsburgh Research Center, Delivers Keynote Address