



MINE DUST NETWORK

Abstract: Escalation of Black Lung in the U.S. and a Systematic Approach for Controlling Respirable Dust

Coal workers' pneumoconiosis (CWP), commonly known as black lung, develops from the inhalation of respirable coal mine dust and is a disabling and potentially fatal lung disease with no cure. Historically, CWP has taken a tremendous human and financial toll in the U.S. coal mining industry. Recent health surveillance data indicates that CWP continues to occur at elevated levels. Respirable coal dust exposure must be controlled to prevent the development of CWP.

The Pittsburgh Mining Research Division of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) conducts laboratory and mine-site research to identify control technologies that can be used to successfully reduce respirable dust levels. Various technologies, using multiple methods of control, can be applied to reduce dust levels. An overview of CWP's impact in the U.S. and a systematic approach for controlling respirable dust in coal mines will be discussed.

Jay Colinet (Pittsburgh Mining Research Division, (NIOSH), USA): Biography



Jay has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mining Engineering from West Virginia University and a Master of Science degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. He started his career in mining safety and health research as a Project Engineer at Bituminous Coal Research. Jay entered government service as a Mining Engineer with the United States Bureau of Mines and is now a Principal Mining Engineer with NIOSH. The primary focus of his research has been to identify and evaluate engineering control

technologies that reduce exposure to respirable coal and silica dust, to help prevent the development of lung disease in mine workers.

