



Sibusiso Masanabo – MOSH Learning Hub

Sibusiso Masanabo is currently appointed as the Principal Adoption Specialist for Dust within the MOSH Learning Hub of the Minerals Council South Africa.

Sibusiso has a broad professional knowledge and background in mine ventilation engineering, Occupational hygiene and Environmental health. Sibusiso obtained his B-Tech in Environmental Health from the University of the Johannesburg and is also the holder of the Certificate in Mine Environmental Control, issued by the then Chamber of Mines, and now Minerals Council South Africa. Sibusiso has 18 years of work experience within the South African Mining industry, with 14 years spent in hard-rock underground & shaft sinking operations as a ventilation and occupational hygiene engineer/specialist.

In his current role, Sibusiso sees himself as a Health & Safety change agent, a catalyst towards elimination of occupational diseases, injuries and fatalities, through application of people centric behaviour change methodologies, facilitation of research and development of new technologies, and most importantly the identification, documenting and widespread adoption of leading practices.

ABSTRACT

MOSH DUST LEADING PRACTICES AS CRITICAL CONTROLS IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN MINING INDUSTRY

Twenty six (26) years into a democratic South Africa, mine workers are still faced with an epidemic of occupational lung diseases due to exposure to mine dust and other airborne pollutants. These pollutants result from mining activities such as drilling, blasting, cleaning and crushing of ore etc. Occupational lung diseases, such as silicosis, often result in premature retirement because of disability or death of mineworkers. A significant financial burden may also be experienced by workers in the form of loss of income and medical or related expenses. The families of affected individuals may have to provide extra personal care to these individuals through taking up additional childcare and household responsibilities that the affected person can no longer perform. Mining companies may also incur cost through the loss of experienced workers, expense of recruiting and training new workers, direct medical expenses, compensation levies, and most recently, the cost involved in managing and redressing the impact of the diseases.

During the Mining Industry Leadership Health & Safety Tripartite Summit held in 2014, the mining industry stakeholders agreed on the milestone targets that needed to be achieved by 2024. These targets were meant to improve the Occupational Health and Safety performance to achieve Zero Harm. The South African mining industry and stakeholders committed to continue raising the bar in eliminating occupational lung diseases, to intensify and revitalize efforts in addressing this challenge by seeking to prevent these diseases, and not merely compensate ill workers. The Adoption of MOSH Dust Leading Practices has proven to be of significant impact in mitigating airborne pollutants (dust) risk in the workplace across the industry, thus improving the health and safety of workers.

My presentation covers a brief background and application of the **MOSH Leading Practice Adoption System**, a process used by the MOSH Learning Hub to identify, document and promote widespread adoption of dust leading practices across the South African Mining Industry. The presentation further highlights the previous and current **MOSH Dust Leading Practices** aimed at assisting the mining industry to achieve the 2024 Occupational Health Milestone on elimination of occupational lung diseases.