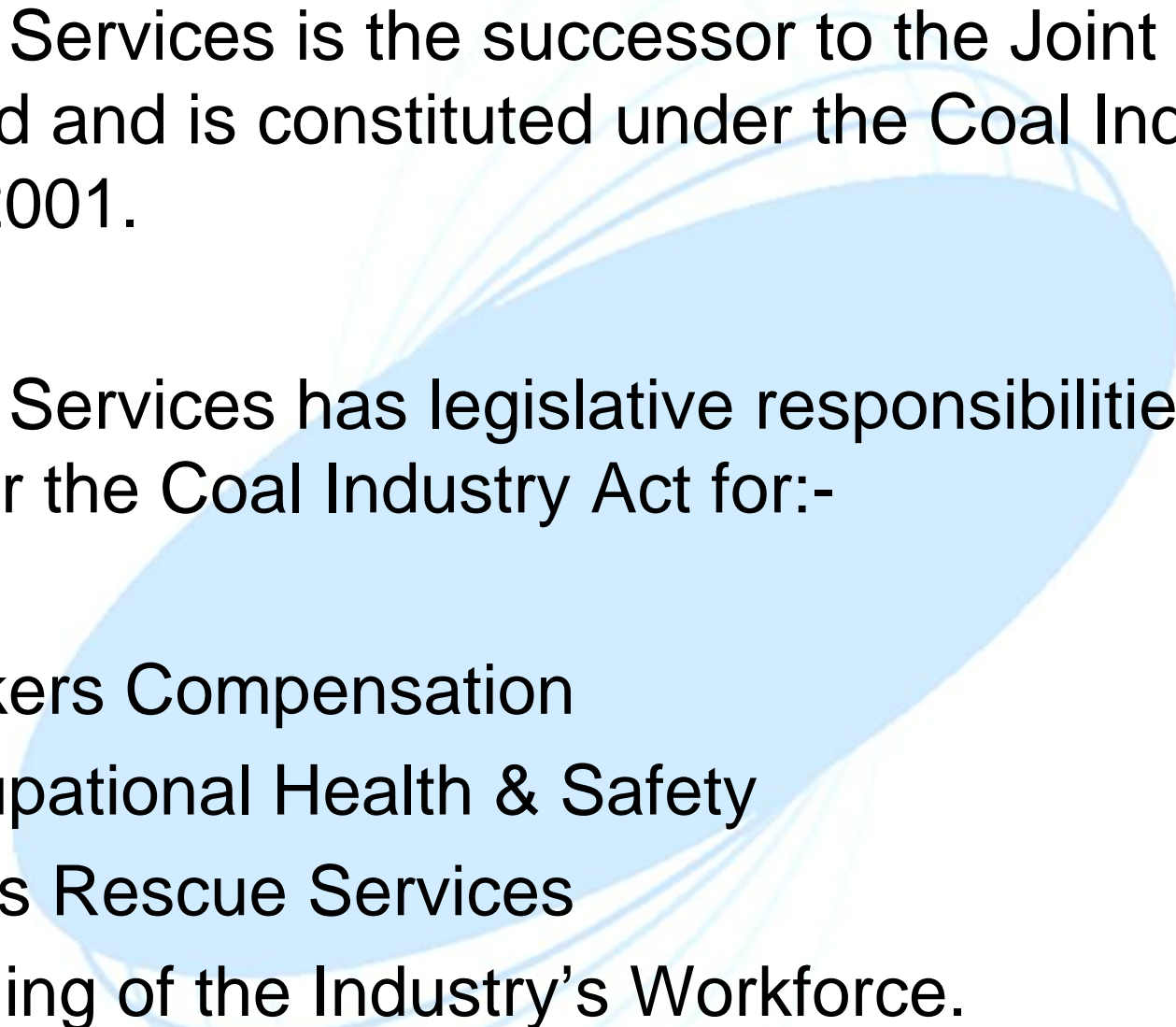




# **CHECK INSPECTORS CONFERENCE**

**SYDNEY 18 SEPTEMBER 2007**

- 
- Coal Services is the successor to the Joint Coal Board and is constituted under the Coal Industry Act 2001.
  - Coal Services has legislative responsibilities under the Coal Industry Act for:-
    - \* Workers Compensation
    - \* Occupational Health & Safety
    - \* Mines Rescue Services
    - \* Training of the Industry's Workforce.

Coal Services (C.S.P.L.) discharges these responsibilities through it's three principal divisions:-

- \* Coal Mines Insurance
- \* Coal Services Health
- \* N.S.W. Mines Rescue Service

through our 220 staff employed at our Sydney Wollongong, Lithgow, Singleton and Newcastle facilities.

Key outcomes of the three principal C.S.P.L. divisions for the year to 30 June 2007 were:-

- \* Coal Mines Insurance received 2.223 claims from a workforce of 16.237 paying out an average \$6 million dollars in claims per month.
- \* Coal Services Health carried out 25,563 medical examinations, rehabilitation referrals and environmental (dust and diesel) tests.
- \* Mines Rescue conducted 22,000 training man days and it is my Mines Rescue training responsibilities that brings me here today.

Coal Services under Div.2 s10 (1) (h) & (i) of the Coal Industry Act 2001 MUST:

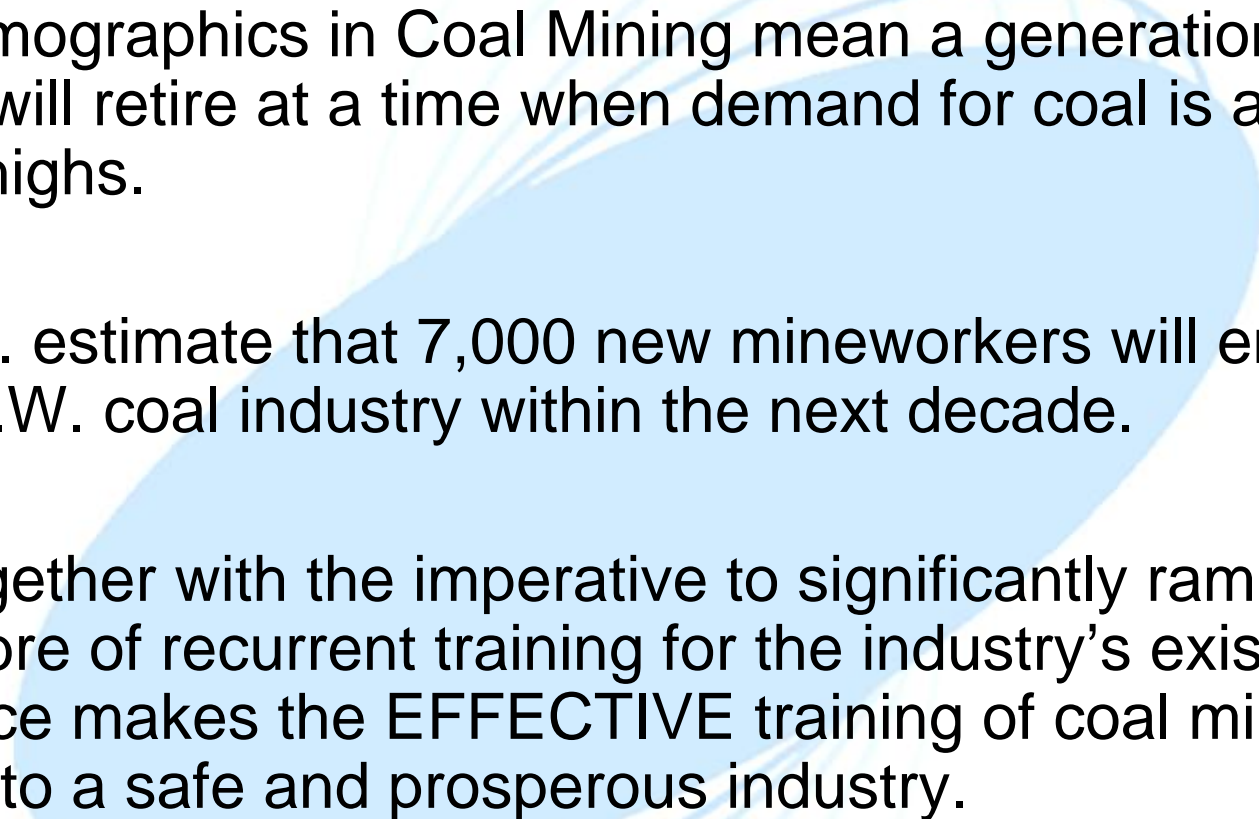
- \* “monitor, promote and specify adequate training standards relating to health and safety for workers engaged in the coal industry”
- \* “approve training schemes for N.S.W. Coal Mine Operator Health and Safety Management Systems”.

C.S.P.L. is also empowered under the Coal Mine Health and Safety Act 2002 via. s3 and s20 and under clause 162 of the 2006 Regulations to participate in the training of the industry’s workforce.

**HOW** is Coal Services discharging these legislative responsibilities in respect of training:

- \* Significantly strengthening Order 34 by aligning said Order to the current competencies that captures all industry employees including contractors.
- \* Committing \$30 M to build new training facilities in each of the four mining regions:
  - \* Newcastle and Woonona 2007
  - \* Singleton and Lithgow 2008

Engaging the University of N.S.W. School of Mining and Engineering in a \$7.5 M Virtual Reality Project that will deliver world's best practice training to the N.S.W. mining industry. (show D.V.D.)

- 
- \* Age demographics in Coal Mining mean a generation of miners will retire at a time when demand for coal is at record highs.
  - \* C.S.P.L. estimate that 7,000 new mineworkers will enter the N.S.W. coal industry within the next decade.
  - \* That together with the imperative to significantly ramp up the calibre of recurrent training for the industry's existing workforce makes the **EFFECTIVE** training of coal miners the key to a safe and prosperous industry.

\* Virtual Reality Modules completed and in use:

- Unaided Self Escape
- Rib and Roof Stability
- Open Cut Truck Pre-Shift Inspection

\* Modules Under Construction

- Hazard Awareness
- Isolation Procedures
- Spontaneous Combustion
- Outburst
- Deputies Inspections

all completed by December 2007.

\* Modules Approved to be commenced 2008

- Check Inspectors Training

## CONCLUSION

C.S.P.L. has no greater priority than keeping the industry's employees safe and healthy.

Our 30 Million Dollar Commitment to enhance training to our coal industry specific Virtual Reality Centres is testimony to that goal.

Thank You